

Syrian soldier killed in Beirut battle

BEIRUT (R) — A Syrian soldier was killed and two were wounded Friday when a shell landed in their position during fighting between rival Palestinian factions at two refugee camps in Beirut, Palestinian sources said. They said the Syrians were manning a position southeast of Shatila camp, where two people were killed and several were wounded earlier when a shell hit a vegetable market there. Syrian troops deployed around Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh camp in April last year to end three years of battles between the Amal militia and Palestinian fighters. At least five people have been killed and more than 20 injured since battles erupted Thursday night between fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and supporters of the pro-Syrian breakaway faction of Abu Musa. The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) put the casualty toll from the mortar, rocket and machinegun fire exchanges at six dead and more than 30 wounded. The Palestinian sources said Syrian officers in Beirut warned the warring Palestinian factions that Damascus would retaliate if its soldiers came under fire again.

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Britain, Iran reach broad agreement

LONDON (Agencies) — Britain and Iran reached broad agreement Friday on settling mutual compensation claims for damage to their embassies which will cost Britain nearly £1 million (\$1.8 million). A Foreign Office spokesman said that under the proposal Britain would pay Iran £1.8 million (\$3.2 million) and Iran would give Britain £900,000 (\$1.6 million).

Afghan programme needs \$1.166 billion

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations Friday called on the world community to donate more than \$1 billion over 18 months to help the people of Afghanistan resettle their war-shattered nation. Sadruddin Aga Khan, coordinator of the U.N.'s humanitarian and economic assistance programme for Afghanistan, said the \$1.166-billion relief programme was intended to see the Afghan people through two crop cycles.

S. African activist rebuked for remarks

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Anti-apartheid groups in South Africa rebuked a leading black activist Friday for remarks made after a visit to Israel. Soweto community leader Nthato Motlana spent a week in Israel last month as guest of the government and was quoted as saying that South African blacks were wrong to compare their plight with that of Palestinians under Israeli occupation. An open letter "to the Palestinian people and the PLO," signed by 24 youth, women and community organisations, said: "We are dismayed and embarrassed at the callous statements that he has uttered about the struggle of the Palestinian people."

Managua, contras trade charges

MANAGUA (AP) — The leftist Sandinista government and the U.S.-backed contra rebels traded charges Friday on who was responsible for a fourth breakdown in talks aimed at ending their almost eight-year-old war. A banner headline in the Sandinista newspaper Barricada said: "Contras sink and deny peace." A rebel clandestine Radio Liberation broadcast said: "The Sandinistas don't want agreements for peace and democracy." The two sides failed Thursday to define a March 23 agreement that seeks democratic reforms and a definitive ceasefire.

U.S. speaker under inquiry

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. House of Representatives Ethics Committee announced Friday it was launching a preliminary inquiry into six charges of misconduct against Speaker Jim Wright, a Democrat from Texas, said the charges, mostly based on press reports that appeared some years ago, were politically motivated and issued a lengthy rebuttal.

Soviet spacecraft docks with space station

MOSCOW (R) — A Soyuz spacecraft carrying Bulgarian's second spaceman and two Soviet cosmonauts docked with the orbiting space station Mir Thursday, the official news agency TASS said. Soyuz TM-5 docked with Mir at 7:57 p.m. local time (15:57 GMT). TASS said. That was two days, five hours and 53 minutes after it was launched.

UNIFIL soldier wounded in clash

MARJAYOUN (R) — A Norwegian soldier with the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was wounded Friday in an exchange of machinegun fire with pro-Israeli militiamen in South Lebanon, sources said. They said the clash erupted between Norwegian soldiers manning a checkpoint in the Fardis area near the town of Hasbaya inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" and a patrol of the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

Algiers statement criticises U.S., urges implementation of 598

Arab leaders pledge total support, aid for Palestinian uprising

Combined agency dispatches

ALGIERS — Arab leaders concluded a three-day extraordinary Arab summit here late Thursday with a pledge to extend all support for the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The Arab leaders criticised American Middle East policies and reaffirmed rejection of all

peace initiatives that exclude the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

They also hailed recent Iraqi victories in the Iran-Iraq war and condemned Iran for its refusal to respond positively to peace efforts to end the Gulf conflict. Those were the key points of a five-page final communiqué issued after oil-producing Arab

(Continued on page 5)
See page 4 for major excerpts from the final Algiers summit statement

Israelis arrest 'suspect' in stabbing, journalists, destroy Jalazoun home

JALAZOUN, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli forces arrested a 26-year-old Palestinian suspected of stabbing the Israeli-appointed mayor of the West Bank town of Al Bireh and demolished his cinderblock house Friday in the Jalazoun refugee camp.

Israel Radio reported the suspect "confessed" to the attempted assassination, but the army would only confirm his arrest. Villagers said soldiers arrested the suspect, Khamis Jawdat Faraj, late Thursday night.

Arab news reports said, meanwhile, that the army arrested two Palestinian reporters and a writer in a continuing crackdown on Arab journalists. An Israeli newspaper report said the military may shut down West Bank schools again.

It took about half an hour for a large, yellow bulldozer to destroy the three-room house where Faraj lived with his 60-year-old mother. Only an almond tree, plum tree and rose bush were left standing in the yard after the demolition.

"They are destroying our house — I don't know what for," said the suspect's mother, Nozha Faraj, who watched the army operation from next door.

Faraj was arrested in connection with the stabbing Tuesday of Hassan Tawil, the 74-year-old mayor of Al Bireh.

Tawil was stabbed in the chest

and was reported recovering. Faraj has been detained several times previously because of alleged involvement in "public disturbances," an army statement said. It said he stabbed the mayor as an act of Palestinian nationalism.

"He followed the mayor's movements, intending to assassinate him, and attempted to do so previously, without success," the statement said.

Underground leaflets issued by leaders of the six-month Palestinian uprising have repeatedly called for Israeli-appointed officials like Tawil to quit their posts.

Israel appointed army officers Friday to take over local affairs of a Palestinian refugee camp.

The army said Major Daniel Danon would head a local council of 13 army officers in the Gaza Strip's Al Bureh camp after leaders of the camp's 17,000 Palestinians resigned.

The Hebrew daily newspaper Haretz quoted army sources as

saying West Bank school could close again if students follow orders given in underground leaflets to leave class at noon.

The occupation authorities have extended classroom time to 12:30 or 1 p.m. to make up for the four months schools were closed.

The Haaretz story came a day after protests and a general strike marked six months of the uprising. Students and young people played a major role in clashes with the army Thursday in the West Bank.

A 17-year-old, Ahmad Hassan Hawari, was killed when he was shot in the head by an Israeli officer in the village of Sebastiya near Nablus. The army said he was about to throw a cement block at troops from a terrace when he was shot.

An 18-year-old boy and a 12-year-old girl were wounded in the legs during a protest in the West Bank town of Tulkarem, hospital officials said.

Shevardnadze: No formal Israel ties until peace conference

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said Thursday an Israeli consular team would visit the Soviet Union next month but that full diplomatic relations cannot be restored until Israel agrees to an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Shevardnadze made the statement to reporters after a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Both men described as friendly and useful but without any breakthrough.

The Soviet minister also said emigration of Soviet Jews was continuing and that there were "no obstacles, but some constraints" — which he identified as "military secrets only."

"I would not call this meeting a new stage in relations, but it was useful meeting," Shevardnadze told a news conference.

"If we can convene an international conference," Shevard-

nadze said, "that would make it possible to settle the problems of our diplomatic relations."

Asked if the Soviet Union would not restore full diplomatic relations without a U.N.-sponsored conference, Shevardnadze answered, "Yes." He said a conference was the only way to reach a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem.

"Let us convene a conference on a Middle East settlement," he said. "And let us also hold serious discussions in settling our relations... if we convene a conference, that would make it possible to settle the problem of our relations with Israel."

Shamir told reporters the 1 hour, 50-minute session was "very friendly, productive and useful," and that he hoped for more talks and eventual restoration of relations.

However, he stood firm against an international peace conference.

Zia appoints interim government

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — President Mohammad Zia ul Haq has appointed an interim Pakistani government which political analysts said would extend his own power but also signalled he would hold elections as promised.

Zia took the oath at noon from 18 ministers at his residence in the capital.

The new line-up included a solid core of loyal supporters, eight of them former ministers he sacked last month, and representatives of almost every other shade of national life.

The major new appointment was Sahabzada Yaqub Khan as foreign minister, a close friend of Zia, an old army colleague, and an experienced international statesman.

The appointment of so many members of the old cabinet only

two weeks after he sacked them supposedly for corruption, economic mismanagement, and lack of Islamic fervour, appeared to confirm the view that one of his main aims was to cut back the growing power of his former prime minister, the analysts said.

Mohammad Khan Junejo differed with Zia on foreign policy, notably over Afghanistan, and threatened to reveal incompetence in the army, they said.

Junejo, who heads the Pakistan Muslim League (PML), was at his house in the south of the country and was unavailable.

Appointment of Zia loyalist and veteran PML politician Mohammad Aslam Khattak as senior minister, and of another PML veteran, Mahmood Ha-

Junejo also held, supported the view Zia had undercut Junejo,



His Majesty King Hussein is seen off late Thursday from Algiers by President Chadli Benjedid (not in photo) and senior Algerian officials (Petra photo)

King arrives in London after attending summit

LONDON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein arrived in London early Friday for a private visit and talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

A Jordanian embassy spokeswoman told the AP the King planned to see Thatcher sometime next week. The spokeswoman gave no details.

The King flew into London from Algiers, where he attended the emergency Arab summit.

The King is accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem.

The King was seen off from Algeria by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and senior Algerian officials as well as Arab League Secretary General Chadli Kilibi.

Upon his departure from Algiers the King sent a cable to Benjedid expressing appreciation for his efforts at the conference and wishing him success in his endeavours to serve his country and the Arab Nation.

The King said the president's efforts were instrumental to the success of the summit.

Maghreb leaders hold first summit

ALGIERS (R) — Five Maghreb states held the first summit in their history on Friday despite last-minute incidents marring newly-patched-up relations.

The meeting was between leaders of Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania, who have long dreamed of overcoming local disputes to form a powerful regional grouping.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who has mediated in Algeria and Morocco's quarrel over the Western Sahara, also attended the meeting at Algerian President Chadli Benjedid's summer residence at Zeralda, outside Algiers.

Newsmen were invited to the residence, where the leaders chatted briefly before going into a luncheon and the first such talks of Maghreb countries since independence.

The summit followed the restoration of diplomatic ties between Algeria and Morocco last month after a 12-year rift. Tunisia and Libya restored ties in December after a two-year rift.

The five leaders at the Maghreb meeting were Morocco's King Hassan, Benjedid, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali and Mauritanian President Maouya Ould Taya.

King Hassan, who had been indirectly snubbed by Qadhafi because of his contacts with Israel, broke the ice in the presence of reporters by addressing Qadhafi as "brother Muammar."

Qadhafi's snub was delivered when the Libyan leader was heard by delegates to say during a summit of the Arab League, which ended here Thursday, that he was wearing a white glove on his right hand so as not to have to

2 killed in Iraqi raids in Gulf

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iraqi warplanes raided a tanker off the Iranian coast at dawn Friday a day after an Iraqi aircraft missile slammed into a salvage tugboat serving Iranian vessels, killing two of its seamen.

The attacks shattered a two-week lull in the so-called "tanker war," a spinoff from the Iran-Iraq war.

They appeared to herald a fresh surge in the Iraqi attempt to blockade Iranian oil shipping lanes after Iraq secured support from the Algiers Arab summit meeting for its efforts to force Iran to accept U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 (see page 4).

Gulf-based shipping executives had no immediate confirmation of the attack. But they said that a similar Baghdad announcement Thursday later proved to refer to a small salvage tugboat, Salvorve, which flies the Singapore flag and operates for the Iranians in the northern parts of the Gulf.

The London-based Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit, which monitors maritime traffic around the world, said two seamen aboard the 742-ton Salvorve were killed.

Iraq welcomes summit result

Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan praised the outcome of the Algiers summit on his return Friday after representing Iraq.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Ramadan as saying "the summit's result concerning the Iran-Iraq war was positive."

Iraq won a victory at the summit Thursday night when the final statement condemned Iran for intransigence in the war.

Shultz assails Dukakis' Jerusalem position

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz Friday called Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis' support for moving the U.S. embassy in Israel to occupied Jerusalem "shocking," saying it would ruin Middle East peace efforts. "It would ruin it (the peace effort)," Shultz said in a television interview. "It would be a gigantic mistake, and it's shocking that anyone would make such a proposal." He said it would be a mistake because Jerusalem is part of Israeli-occupied territory and its final status must be negotiated between Israel and the Arab states. "I have no doubt that the capital of Israel will stay there. It will be a unified city and so on," Shultz said. "But in the meantime if you want to proceed with negotiations you don't wind up in effect declaring an outcome that hasn't been agreed to yet. So it would be a bad mistake." Dukakis was quoted in a Los Angeles Times interview May 26 as saying the United States should move the U.S. embassy in Israel to occupied Jerusalem from Tel Aviv in view of Israel's claim that Jerusalem is its capital.

Jordan celebrates two national anniversaries

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Friday celebrated the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day anniversaries commemorating the endeavours of the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt and their armed forces in their struggle to achieve liberation, unity and independence for the Arab Nation.

A statement issued by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the revolt, led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali, broke out in 1916 to bring liberation and freedom for all Arabs from colonial rule.

The statement paid tribute to the sacrifices made by the Hashemite leaders towards national causes in general and Palestine in particular and said these leaders continued the struggle regardless of the arbitrary measures of the then British colonial rule.

It said that the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein was able to save large parts of Palestine and East Jordan from British-Zionist plans for the implementation of the Balfour Declaration.

In true commitment to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, King Abdullah responded to the will and desires of the peoples on both banks of the River Jordan for unity, thus taking an important step towards an overall unity among Arab states, the statement noted.

It said that the East-West Bank unity of 1950 serves as an example to other Arab states and constituted a nucleus for pan-Arab unity. The Great Arab Revolt's principles, the statement said, serve as a course of action for Arabs seeking to pool their resources and their potential to enhance Arab solidarity.

On this occasion the Jordanian Armed Forces would continue to serve as a shield, protecting the Arab Nation from aggression and from external dangers.

On the occasion the Royal Court received cables of good wishes addressed to His Majesty King Hussein. The cables were sent by the acting prime minister, the chief Islamic justice, the mayor of Amman, heads of public and private organisations and prominent Jordanian figures as well as the directors-general of the Public Security, Civil Defence and General Intelligence departments.

On the occasion of the two anniversaries celebrations were held throughout the Kingdom. The celebrations included school festivities, charitable bazaars, sports events and meetings.

Khasawneh: Ties with PLO unrelated to national stand

LONDON (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein regards the Palestine problem as a pan-Arab and national commitment regardless of relations between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said the Jordanian Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh was Friday quoted as saying.

The London-based Arabic-language Al Sharq Al Awsat magazine quoted Khasawneh as saying that regardless of relations with the PLO, Jordan would continue to support the Palestinian people until the end of occupation no matter how Jordan's future relations would be with the Arab territory or whether there would be an independent state in Palestine or one confederated with the East Bank.

Jordan will also support Syria to liberate the Golan Heights and back Iraq to end all forms of Iranian aggression on its territory, Khasawneh said.

He said Jordan concerns itself with the problems of all Arab countries since Jordan's security and well-being is an integral part of that of the Arab Nation.

The minister said Jordan's assistance to the Palestinian people was a national commitment and this assistance would continue regardless of current moves to end Israel's occupation.

This assistance, he said, is designed to enable the Palestinians to maintain their steadfastness on their land and in the face of Israel's aggressive measures. Reports contrary to this can be considered as part of a hostile and harmful propaganda campaign aimed to disintegrate the Arab Nation into tribes and disunited groups, the minister added.

The minister denied reports on

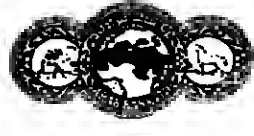


Hani Khasawneh

the minister said. "Jordan deplores all harmful campaigns launched by hostile circles against its government and citizens and denounces allegations that Jordan is about to disassociate itself from the West Bank where Arab kinsmen live and struggle for freedom," the minister said. "But it will not act on behalf of Palestinians in negotiations for peace. Khasawneh added.

He said that this reaffirmation came in response to sensitivity within the PLO with regard to Palestinian representation at a peace conference. The minister said: "It should be known to all that Jordan does not compete with anyone to represent the Palestinians and that it gives priority to liberation of the occupied Arab territories and to safeguarding their Arab identity."

On the Occasion of the Anniversary of
The Great Arab Revolt and Army Day



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Professor Gastone Primon, ceramics instructor discussing the work with one of his students at the Salt Handicraft Training Centre

Moulding the artisans in Salt

Test and photos
by Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

SALT — With its 30 fulltime students fully and quietly absorbed in the many aspects of designing and producing cloth and ceramics, the Salt Handicraft Training Centre has the feel about it of a long established institute. This combined Italian-Jordanian project only became fully operational however last February, yet in the short period of its existence the centre seems to have already settled down to become a permanent part of life in the old city.

Located in the basement of the new Salt Cultural Centre, the Salt Handicraft Training Centre's main function is to train young Jordanians from all over the country in the crafts of weaving and ceramics. The aims behind the scheme are multi-fold but the main goal is basically to preserve and develop local handicrafts that today risk disappearing due to poor job opportunities. It is also felt, particularly by the Italians involved in the project, that if these activities are neglected much irreversible damage is done such as "mass migrations towards big cities or foreign countries, the

flight from the countryside, environmental degradation, the extinction of arts and trades that have been deeply rooted in the local culture for centuries and finally the loss of social identities.

The young artisans who will study at the centre will thus be trained not only to be proficient in their fields but also to be able to relaunch and spread their trades throughout the country.

Revitalising city centre
The direct consequence of being based in Salt is that the Handicraft Training Centre also helps fulfill another objective, that of revitalising the central business district of the city which is now in a sad state of neglect and disrepair despite its considerable historical and architectural importance. It is hoped that, once trained, the artisans will be able to reuse the old shops in the souk area as their ateliers and in this way will help contribute to the city's urban restoration and to the development of cultural and tourist activities related to it.

The final and perhaps one of the most important aims of the centre is to create new job opportunities for the young, notably for women, who are the most heavily

hit by unemployment.

The initial idea for a handicraft school in Salt began with mayor of Salt, Dr. Abdul Razzak Al Nsour whose request in 1984 for such a place was channelled through the Ministry of Planning to the Italian government. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to help and pledged to contribute JD 600,000 towards the scheme. After a sociological survey, the Italians via their implementing company COTECNO, worked out the programme and the didactic activity of the centre. They then equipped the workshops and assigned three experts, Professor Claudio Cimino as coordinator, Professor Barbara Martini as weaving instructor and Professor Gastone Primon as ceramics instructor. In September six of the Jordanian students presently training at the centre will be sent on eight month scholarships to Italy to specialise further in their respective fields after which they will form the core of local instructors. The Jordanian contribution to the scheme, implemented by the Salt Development Corporation (SDC) and the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) is to provide the staff and the premises for the handicraft centre, to fit it out and supply office and classroom furniture. The SDC and the NHF are also committed for the duration of the scheme to supply the raw materials needed, to pay overheads and air tickets to Italy for all Jordanian personnel.

This technical cooperation programme between Italy and Jordan will continue for a further two years, ending in August 1990.

Training the instructors

For the time being the handicraft centre will only provide tuition in weaving and ceramics but later it is hoped training will

be extended to include other crafts such as embroidery, glass work, hide and skin treatment and metal work and goldsmithing. The students presently enrolled at the centre have secondary school degrees as they are being trained specifically to become instructors. Starting in September 1988, however, the students will be selected, through simple tests and interviews, from among those who have finished the ordinary intermediate cycle provided for by the Jordanian educational system. A maximum of 15 students will be enrolled for each of the two courses. During the three year courses these students will not only learn all the basic techniques involved in all aspects of either ceramics or weaving but will also be given an elementary background in art, design and in the history of art.

"We would like to develop a creative atmosphere in the centre," Dr. Guido Cerboni of the Italian Embassy told the Jordan Times. "In the beginning we want to keep the students as free as possible from commercial constraints so that they can develop their talents without being worried about work and jobs. Also by allowing them to develop their creativity and by giving them a background in art we hope the students will go on to try and develop new forms of decoration and designs."

The courses will be free of charge to the students but it is hoped that once the school starts functioning properly it will be possible to sell the crafts made by the students to offset some of the running costs.

Once the students graduate it is hoped they will organise themselves in an artisan cooperative in Salt. This cooperative could take on its own independent activity while remaining in contact with the centre and the SDC for con-

sultancy and assistance. "In this way," Dr. Cerboni added, "the school will remain a point of reference."

Research by the Italians has shown that the market the future artisans will be mostly aiming at will not be the tourist market, although obviously important, but the local one, producing cheap goods that can be used daily by housewives or more expensive items for decoration.

Short courses

In addition to the main three year courses, the centre will also offer short courses in ceramics and weaving for interested adults as well as refresher courses for professionals who wish to update their skills.

"The Salt Handicraft Training Centre is the kind of project that is particularly useful in Jordan," Dr. Cerboni said, "as it orientates people towards the kind of work much needed here. Italy has over recent years been trying to support these kinds of alternatives. In 1982 we established a school of electronics in Zarqa, and later this year we hope to establish a printing department at the Polytechnic of Amman. In Ma'an, a particularly depressed area, we are establishing a project to quarry and process limestone. The way the limestone is presently cut and quarried is very primitive and about 70 per cent of the raw material is wasted. Our scheme will not only cut back on this waste but will also create new job opportunities."

On top of all these projects, the Italian government gives about 25 scholarships every year to allow individuals to study in Italy in order to become specialised in many fields that range from agriculture to banking.

"Our latest project, which is still in its very preliminary stages, is to establish a mosaic school in Madaba. Because of our outstanding tradition in the restoration of mosaics we were



Weaving department, Salt handicraft centre



Ceramics department, Salt handicraft centre

approached by the Ministry of Tourism and the Department of Antiquities to found a mosaic school, a project that was strongly recommended by Her Majesty

Queen Noor after a visit to Italy. We are still working on how to structure such a school as it will be difficult to find the correct manpower locally — ideally we

would recruit staff and students from those who have already been involved in some way with the restoration of monuments," concluded Dr. Cerboni.

Jordanian poet wins second prize

Arab journalist wins BBC poetry prize

LONDON (J.T.) — A poem penned by well-known Arab journalist, Mr. Haroon Hasbani Rasheed, has won unanimous approval from the judges of the BBC's poetry competition, held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its Arabic Service.

Mr. Rasheed, who is the Palestinian representative of the Tunis-based Arab Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and editor of the Arab Affairs Journal, was awarded £300 for his winning entry.

Second prize of £200 went to Dr. Jamil "Alloush of Amman, Jordan and third prize of £100 to Dr. Mohammad Ateya Mazrou' of the University Hospital in Zakazik, Egypt. The three winners will have their prizes presented locally by senior representatives of the BBC's Arabic Service.

Competition judges, Saïd El Eissa and Buland El-Haydari, both well-known Arab poets, and Riad El-Rayyes, a London Publisher, did not know the identities

of the winning authors until after judging as all entries were submitted under pen names. Mr. Rasheed and Dr. 'Alloush are both established poets and have had many of their verses published in Arab journals.

Nabil Iskander, senior producer, features, with the BBC's Arabic Service, said: "The competition attracted a large number of entries from all the Arab countries and a high proportion of entries from women poets. What surprised me, however, is the number of entries we received from budding Arab poets living as far afield as Germany, Turkey and the Cameroon, which was very gratifying."

"The standard of entry was reflected in the high number of poems shortlisted — twelve from the three competition categories," he said.

All categories related to broadcasting, with the most popular being "The Ear Loves." Many Arab poets took the opportunity

in this category to send their congratulations in verse to the BBC's Arabic Service 50th anniversary. The other categories were "The Man of Tomorrow,"

from which the winning entry was chosen, and "Our Small World." The majority of entries were of traditional rather than contemporary style.



Nabil Iskander (standing, left) and Joseph Awad (standing, right) of the BBC's Arabic Service with poetry judges Riad El-Rayyes (left) and Saïd El-Essa (BBC photo)



Ceramics department

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18:10 Local series
19:05 Message from Iraq
19:15 Family programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:30 Local programme
22:05 Arabic play
22:30 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Play continued.

PROGRAMME TWO

16:20 European football championship
16:30 Le Chevalier de Pardaillon
19:00 News in French
19:15 Un DB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
21:00 Magazine 01
21:10 Saturday variety show
22:05 News in English
23:10 Feature film: "Hi and Run"

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11:00 The Story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental/Old favourites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Good Old Days
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
18:30 Newsdesk/Music
20:00 The Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
21:00 The Musical in Review
22:00 Country Music
23:00 Classical Concerts
24:00 Close Down

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News Summary 08:30 Personal View
08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk
09:30 Meridian 10:00 World News
10:24 Hours: News Summary 10:30
From the Weeklies 10:45 Network UK
11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections
11:15 A Jolly Good Show 12:00 World
News 12:30 British Press Review 12:15
The World Today 12:30 Financial
News followed by Sports Roundup
12:45 Personal View 13:00 News Summary
13:15 Trooping the Colour contd.
13:30 Trooping the Colour contd.
13:45 Letter from America 14:00
World News 14:09 News About Britain
14:15 The A-Z of Hollywood
14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio Newsworld
15:15 Multitrack 3 15:45 Sports
Roundup 16:00 World News 16:09
Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
16:30 Network UK 16:45 Sportsworld
17:00 News Summary followed by Sports
world contd. 17:45 World News 18:00
Radio Newsworld 18:15 Sportsround
19:00 World News 19:09 News about
Britain 19:15 Sportsround 20:00 World
News 20:09 Words 20:15 The Ken
Bruce Show 20:45 Sports Round-up
21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Great British
Concert Halls 22:00 News Summary
followed by Play of the Week: A View
from the Mountain 22:00 World News
23:00 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
23:30 Meridian 24:00 News Summary
followed by Squaring the Triangle
00:15 The Seven Ages of Man 00:30
People and Politics 01:00 World News
01:09 From Our Own Correspondent
01:25 Book Choice 01:30 New Ideas
01:40 Reflections 01:45 Sports Round-
up 02:00 World News 02:09 Commem-
orative 02:15 The Tony Myatt Request
Show

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565,
11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz
07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00
News 08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News
09:10 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10
Closeup 10:30 Press Conference, USA
10:50 Top Twenty
11:00 Newsdesk/Music
20:00 The Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
21:00 The Musical in Review
22:00 Country Music
23:00 Classical Concerts
24:00 Close Down

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabel Amman, 3rd Circle.
★ A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel.
★ An art exhibition by Tawfiq Yahya at the French Cultural Centre.
★ An exhibition of Arabian Calligraphy by Dr. Sami Nashif Mikareem at Alia Art Gallery.

LECTURES

★ Lecture: "The Beauty of the Daba's Marble Coloration and Mineralization" by Dr. Subhi Nasser. Goethe Institute at 8:00 p.m.
★ Lecture: "Heart Diseases" by Dr. Hassan Zreika and Dr. Subhi Nasser. Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation at 6:00 p.m.

FILM

★ A film: "Hope and Glory" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre .. 644371
American Centre library .. 641520
British Council .. 6361478
French Cultural Centre .. 637009
Goethe Institute .. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777
Haya Arts Centre .. 665195
Husseini Youth City .. 6671816
Y.W.C.A. .. 641793
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS

★ Children's Heritage and Science Museum: Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00

a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel. 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel. 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman. Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luwaidh. Tel. 677440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein. Tel. 661757.
Terra Sancta Church (Roman Catholic). Jabel Luwaidh. Mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman. Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601391.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822602, Rev. Veli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) 815817, 821264

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
10:00 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:35 Dhahran (RJ)
10:40 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
11:00 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
11:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
11:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:00 Los Angeles, Miami, Vienna (RJ)
20:45 Tripoli (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

02:30 Belgrade (JU)
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Bahrain (GF)
13:30 Cairo (MS)
15:45 Tripoli (LN)
16:00 Riyadh (SV)
16:40 Athens (RJ)
19:00 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
21:15 Paris, Damascus (AF)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:45 Agaba (RJ)
11:30 Tripoli (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10 Athens (RJ)
12:50 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
13:05 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
13:40 London (RJ)
13:15 Paris (RJ)
20:30 Dhahran (RJ)
20:40 Karachi (RJ)
20:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:50 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
21:10 Cairo (RJ)
21:15 Jeddah (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

03:35 Belgrade (JU)
06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
08:45 Beirut (ME)
09:15 Beirut (ME)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:30 Doha, Muscat (GF)
16:45 Kuwait (LN)
17:40 Riyadh (SV)
18:25 Damascus (AZ)
20:40 Kuwait (KU)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Thursday rates
Local selling rates in J.O.D.
Belgian franc (for 10) 99.2/ 100.2
Dutch guilder 184.9/ 186.7
French franc 61.4/ 62
Italian lira (for 100) 27.8/ 28.2
Japanese yen (for 100) 283.8/ 286.6
Swedish crown 50.5/ 50.1
Swiss franc 249.2/ 251.7
U.S. sterling pound 355.2/ 359.2
W. German mark 207.5/ 209.6

PRAYER TIMES

03:45 Fajr
05:22 Sunrise (Summer)
12:35 Dhuhur
16:10 Asr
19:48 Maghreb
21:25 Isha

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A gradual drop in temperature is expected with light and variable winds, becoming westerly moderate. In Agaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 22/30
Agaba 25/39
Deserts 20/34
Jordan Valley 23/37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Agaba 41. Humidity readings: Amman 23 per cent, Agaba 23 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661776
Telephone Information 13
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661776
Telephone Information 13
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

NIGHT DUTY

Dr. Wa'el Khatib 665917
Dr. Anwar Al-Iqbalawi 642696
Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Najjar 775800
Dr. Mahmud Jaber 623320
Al-Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644940
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642662
Malha, J. Amman 634140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 667227/9
Al-Husseini Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 6641646
Al-Abdi, Abdali 7770105
Al-Mutajir 7770105
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7751126
Army, Marka 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Anni Hospital 674155

TAXIS:

Tal taxi 640031
Venice taxi 644584
Asfour taxi 623320
Tamer taxi 633031
Nabata taxi 663100
Sayed taxi 604422
Middle East taxi 604615

IRBID:

Dr. Shihadeh Al-Zagh 240400
Al-Shaar pharmacy 278825

ZARQA:

Dr. Farah Al-Iqbalawi 981923
Khalid pharmacy 985417

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in J.O.D. per kg.

Apple (French) 400/360
Banana 850/750
Banana (Mukammal) 320/280
Banana (Mukammal) 270/220
Beans 450/350
Cabbage 110/80
Carrot 120/80
Cauliflower 120/80
Corn 100/70
Cucumbers 80/120
Eggplant (large) 200/150
Eggplant (small) 200/150
Garlic 520/280
Lemon (yellow) 450/400

Lemon (green) 350/300
Mallow 90/50
Marrow 140/120
Onion (dry) 90/60
Onion (local) 280/220
Peas 520/420
Pepper (hot) 800/700
Pepper (sweet) 340/300
Potato 420/350
Strawberry 170/150
Tomatoes 1200/1000
Watermelon 80/70
Sweetmelon 100/70
Sweetmelon 200/150

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE: The sessions of the Eighth Arab Children's Conference will begin on June 27 under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. The seven-day conference will include a number of activities, including the children's visit to Jordan's industrial, touristic, historical and cultural sites.

GEORGETOWN TEACHERS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday received a delegation comprising teachers from Georgetown University. The delegation earlier participated in a seminar on the Middle East held in Aqaba.

ELECTRIFICATION: The Higher Council of Science and Technology Chairman, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, will inaugurate the electrification project of the remote village of Jurf Al Darawish at the project site near the village on June 15. The project falls within the framework of using solar energy and wind power to generate electricity.

U.K. ENVOY HOLDS RECEPTION: U.K. Ambassador in Amman Anthony Reeve Thursday held a reception at his residence on the birthday anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II. The reception was attended by Upper House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayed, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief Chamberlain His Highness Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, a number of ministers and senior officials, chiefs of diplomatic missions in Amman, journalists, and members of the British community in Jordan.

NIMER MEETS ENVOYS: The Foreign Ministry's Secretary General Nabih Al Nimer met separately in his office Thursday with the ambassadors of France, the United States, Australia, India and the chargé d'affaires of Saudi Arabia in Amman. Nimer reviewed with the envoys Jordan's relations with their countries and exchanged with them views about the current situation in the Middle East and recent developments in the region.

TRANSPORT TALKS END: The General Corporation for Air Transport and Tourism in Jordan and the General Corporation for Egyptian Air Transport Thursday concluded their talks. They agreed to cement cooperation in various fields, and exchange information on their activities. The meeting was chaired by Abdul Halim Khaddam and Abdul Latif Al Tawansi, the chairmen of the corresponding Jordanian and Egyptian corporations.

PETRA FESTIVAL: Youth Minister Awad Khleifat Thursday opened the first Petra Cultural Festival, organised by Wadi Mousa students, attending the University of Jordan. Khleifat also opened a number of exhibitions, held on the sidelines of the cultural event, which included poetry reading, and two wkd do performances by Wadi Mousa Youth Centre and wkd do team.

RUSSIAN FOLK TROUPE: As part of Jordan's celebrations of the Independence Day and the Great Arab Revolt anniversary, the Jordanian Soviet Friendship Society, in cooperation with the Soviet Cultural Centre Thursday held a celebration, during which a Russian Folk troupe staged performances at the Zarqa Community College.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS: Participants in the preparatory committee meeting for the symposium entitled Towards an integrated Arab order for environmental statistics, concluded their meetings in Amman Thursday and decided to hold their forthcoming meeting in the first week of September.

NHF chief, Italian aide discuss Salt project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Executive Director of Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Tihni Ra'fat Wednesday received Marco Spada, who is entrusted by the Italian government with the duty of coordinating with the Jordanian side on matters dealing with the project of Salt Handicraft Centre.

During the meeting they discussed the project development and the steps needed to accept students at the centre.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Ida Al Mutlag, the project coordinator appointed by the NHF, and Claudio Cimino, the country project coordinator who represents the Italian side.

Abbadi, Soviet Muslim leader discuss activities

AMMAN (Petra) — The Secretary General of the Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs Ministry, Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, Thursday received the representative of the religious administration for the Muslims of north Caucasus.

The secretary general explained the ministry's plans to spread Islamic faith and referred to the ministry's role in supporting the people living in the occu-

ried territories through full supervision of their Islamic affairs.

He also shed light on the aid received by the fund in Support of the Uprising in the Occupied Territories. He said that the fund gives permanent salaries to the families of the martyrs and supports university students who ran out of funds following the outbreak of the uprising.

Man kills pregnant stepmother, 3 children

RAMTHA (J.T.) — A 24-year-old man from Ramtha north Jordan has murdered his pregnant stepmother, identified only as B.K.G. and her three children, by beating them with an iron bar.

A report in Al Dustour Arabic daily said the murderer committed his crime during his father's absence from home last Wednesday when the 35-year-old woman and her three children, (his own step brothers) were in their room.

The man gagged his sister in law who was present in the room and who witnessed the crime before the killer left in a hurry for Damascus where he continues his higher studies, the report said.

The gagged woman finally was able to scream, attracting the neighbours attention, who rushed to her help and reported the matter to the police, the report added.

The report said initial investigation revealed that the young man committed his crime following a quarrel with his father who had registered the house in his new wife's name.

The report also said that the police were continuing their investigation but there was no word about the murderer.

It said that the crime was the most brutal ever to be committed in the town.

Hamzeh urges pharmacists to abide by regulations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh has called on Jordanian pharmacists and owners of drug stores in the country to abide by Health Ministry regulations on dealing with medicine and warned that legal action would be taken against violators of laws.

The minister was speaking at a meeting called to discuss matters related to the sale of drugs in Jordan and controlling the price of medicine, and means of preventing the smuggling of medicine into Jordanian markets.

During the meeting held at the Health Ministry's Pharmacy and Drug Control Department, Hamzeh said concerned authorities should intensify their work to ensure the best drug and medicinal services to the public.

"The ministry attaches great importance to the role of pharma-

cists and drug stores in helping to spread health awareness among members of the public, and in abiding by the regulations concerning the sale of drugs," Hamzeh noted.

He said close cooperation between the Health Ministry and the Jordanian Pharmacists Association remains the most effective guarantee in this respect.

The minister told the meeting that a committee, grouping doctors and pharmacists will be set up to lay down a policy to prescribe and dispense medicines under their scientific names.

The ministry, he said, plans to dispatch a number of its specialists abroad for training courses on medicine control and on gathering information about poisoning caused from pesticides and insecticides.



Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Kuwaiti General Corporation for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs, Ibrahim Al Du'ejj Al Sabah, sign a memorandum of understanding Thursday (Petra photo)

Haj Hassan back from Iraq talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Friday returned home from Baghdad, where he headed the Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the Jordanian-Iraqi Land Transport Company (JILTC) and the Arab Maritime Bridge Company (AMBC).

In an arrival statement, Haj Hassan said the general assembly

decided to expand the operations of the AMBC to include transportation of goods as well as passengers from Aqaba to Nuweiba. He added that the conference decided to expand the operations of the JILTC, and to draw up a working plan for the company, to provide chartering 150 new trucks, which will be increased in the future to reach up to 300 trucks. During his

visit to Iraq, Haj Hassan met with his Iraqi counterpart Mohammad Hamzeh Zubeidi and his Egyptian counterpart Sulaiman Mutawalli, with whom he held talks on bilateral cooperation.

On Thursday, Haj Hassan met with Iraqi minister of labour and social development to discuss labour cooperation between Jordan and Iraq.

JCO director inspects projects in Karak

KARAK (Petra) — Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Director General Mervid Al Tal paid an inspection tour of agricultural cooperative projects in Karak Governorate and a project for sifting and the sterilisation of seeds.

The JD 60,000 project is designed to produce improved seeds which would be sold to farmers at subsidised cost, to help them produce better output and to encour-

age farmers in the southern regions to increase their cereal production.

Tal later inspected a pasture land project at Lejoun where 6,500 dunums have been planted with pasture shrubs and irrigated with water from artesian wells.

He also toured a bee-breeding project and a centre for offering vocational and handicraft training for rural women run by the JCO.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — June 11, 1988

4:30 European Football Championships live from Germany
Denmark vs. Spain

8:30 Mr. Belveder

9:00 Man and Music
Beethoven
Part 2

10:20 Feature Film
Hit and Run

Starring:
Paul Perri
Claudia Cron

Sun. — June 12, 1988

8:30 Check it Out

9:15 European Football Championships from Germany
Netherlands vs. USSR

10:00 News in English

10:15 Cont... Football

11:10 Rich Man, Poor Man

Mon. — June 13, 1988

8:30 Perfect Strangers

9:10 Secret Army
Weekend

10:20 Feature Film
Draw

Starring:
Kirk Douglas
James Coburn
Alexandra Bastedo
Graham Jarvis

In a film that opens with a spectacular runaway stagecoach scene, handsome Harry Holland (Douglas), an outlaw who once rode with Jesse James, finds himself back in trouble with the law when a friendly poker game erupts into a gunfight, and a bullet from his gun deals the sheriff a losing hand.

Tue. — June 14, 1988

8:30 Married Dora

Called in for questioning by the Immigration Service, panic-stricken Peter and Dora promise wholeheartedly to sleep together, as proof that they are a loving married couple.

9:15 European Football Championships from Germany
Italy vs. Spain



Claudia Cron

10:00 News in English

10:15 cont... Football

11:00 Rich Man, Poor Man
Last episode

Wed. — June 15, 1988

8:30 Guinness Records

9:00 Hooperman

9:30 Twilight Zone
Night Crawlers

10:20 The Other Kingdom

Thurs. — June 16, 1988

8:30 Charlie Chaplin
Easy Street

9:10 Anna of the Five Towns

10:20 Feature Film
Conrack

Starring:
Martin Ritt
Irving Raverch

A young white teacher is assigned to an all-black school in South Carolina. After some difficulty he makes friends with children and parents.

Fri. — June 17, 1988

8:30 Carol Burnett and Friends

9:15 European Football Championships from Germany
Italy vs. Denmark

10:00 News in English

10:15 cont... Football

11:00 Falcon Crest
Battle Lines

Maggie hesitates to give her son away for adoption — Richard asks her to marry him after her divorce from Chase.

Jordan, Kuwait sign memo of cooperation

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan and Kuwait have signed a memorandum of understanding, paving the way for bilateral cooperation in agricultural and fisheries fields and opening the door for joint investments in both sectors.

The memorandum signed here on Thursday provides for exchanges of expertise and information related to agriculture, between concerned research centres in both countries and cooperation in the production of tree saplings and seeds, and in improving new breeds of livestock and in the use of veterinary vaccines.

The memorandum also calls for an exchange of visits by specialists intended to increase cereal production, fruit tree plantations, and in joint discussion of policies and regulations governing control and protection of animal and vegetation wealth. It calls for exchange of expertise on pasture lands the employment of pesti-

cides, raising Arabian horses, combating diseases that affect crops, management of fisheries and fish breeding projects, irrigation system and wildlife reserves.

The memorandum calls for an encouragement of joint investments in agriculture, and the exchange of agricultural products and fruits, poultry and sheep.

The memorandum was signed by Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud and the visiting Kuwaiti chairman of the board of directors of the General Corporation for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs Ibrahim Al Du'ejj Al Sabah.

Hmoud, who spoke just before the signing ceremony, said that his ministry would place its exper-

tise under Kuwait's disposal to help it carry out its plan of greening Kuwait, and will be ready to supply forest tree saplings required for this project.

Hmoud called for stepped up cooperation in agricultural research between the two sides to help promote agricultural development in Jordan and Kuwait.

For his part, Sheikh Ibrahim said his visit and tours of agricultural projects in Jordan helped to establish firm steps for future cooperation.

"Kuwait which embarks on plans for greening the country, will benefit from Jordan's expertise and experiments and Kuwait appreciates Jordan's help in this regard," Sheikh Ibrahim said.

He said Kuwait will benefit also from Jordan's experiments in cereal production, irrigation systems and afforestation projects, and will cooperate with Jordan in the process of ensuring food security for the Arab World.

Zawaideh discusses housing strategy

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A higher national committee on housing strategy will convene here on Saturday to discuss the Kingdom's housing plans from now until the year 2006.

The committee, which groups the ministers of planning and public works and the minister of state for cabinet affairs, met Thursday to start discussion of the strategy which revolves on three axes: residential land, institutional framework, including research, training, and financing housing schemes.

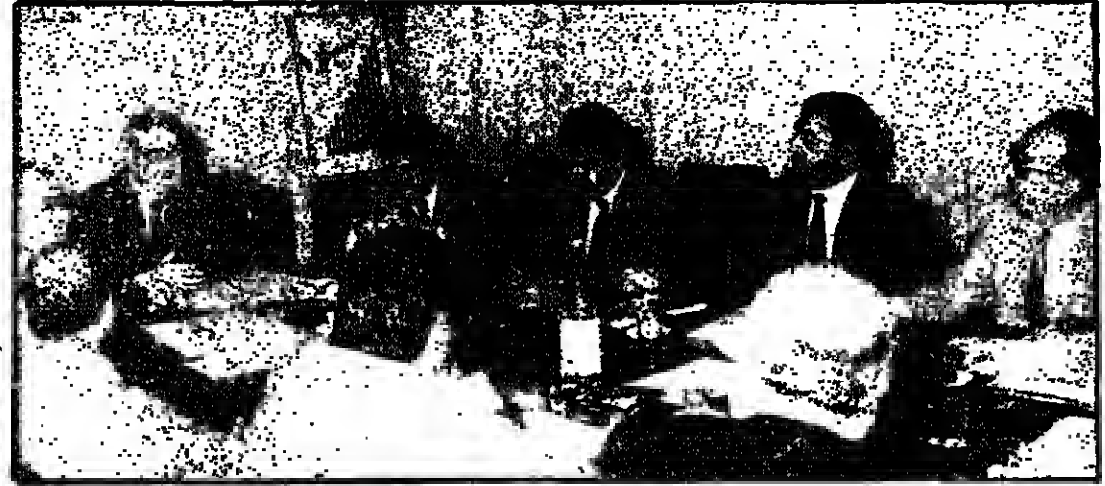
Public works and Housing Minister Shafiq Zawaideh told an international conference on housing held in India in April that Jordan was pursuing all efforts to carry out housing projects for needy and poor people; and it strives toward better exploitation and fairer distribution of land.

In an address to the 11th session of the United Nations Human Settlements Committee, Zawaideh said Jordan was basing its housing programmes on benefiting low-income families in

the first place and involving the largest section of the population in housing projects and development in general.

Zawaideh will take part also in Saturday's meeting which will finalise discussion on the housing strategy for Jordan and prepare recommendations for the government.

Thursday's meeting was attended by members of a technical team set up by the Ministry of Planning to supervise housing plans.



Housing Minister Shafiq Zawaideh Saturday discusses strategy to improve housing conditions (Petra photo)

Dear Chris
Well, here I am at last in
old Vienna - I should have done it
years ago. Friendly people,
cobble streets, beautiful parks
and delicious food. A great trip on
Royal Jordanian! Vienna's
International Airport was so efficient
and the welcome was wonderful.
A good start for the holiday
"Auf wiedersehen"
as they say here.
Love Bob

C. Smith
P.O. Box 302
AMMAN-JORDAN

ROYAL JORDANIAN الملكي الاردني

Setting new standards.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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MAHMOUD AL-KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

KAMI G. KHOURI

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Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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Jordan Times advertising department.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Support for uprising

THE extraordinary Arab summit meeting in Algiers has crowned all previous summit meetings by declaring unified Arab action and continued material and moral support designed to enable the Palestinians regain their usurped rights and land. The Arab leaders have strongly supported the Palestinian uprising as being the only remaining option for liberating the Arab land of Palestine from Israeli occupation. Through this struggle and through continued support and assistance to the Palestinians the Arabs hope to achieve their national aspiration and to lay the ground for a genuine and lasting peace. The resolutions of the Algiers summit came as a favourable response to King Hussein's urgent appeal to the Arab leaders for extending all possible aid to the Palestinian uprising which, he said, Jordan will continue to aid and support to enable the Palestinians regain their freedom. There is no doubt that the King's address to the summit and his open and candid words on the situation in our region and Jordan's readiness to support all summit resolutions concerning the Palestine question were all instrumental in helping the leaders to achieve success. Jordan believes in unified action and in supporting the Arab people in Palestine and Iraq to repel aggression and attain liberation and peace.



Al Dustour: Arab solidarity

THE Algiers summit has declared the Arab Nation's unlimited assistance to the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied Arab territories in a true response to the sacrifices and the struggle of the oppressed people of Palestine. By this declaration, at the conclusion of the summit, the Arab leaders displayed their determination to counter Israel's inhuman practices against the Arab people and end Israel's atrocities against the Palestinians in their homeland. The resolutions represented a true manifestation of appreciation of and support for the Arab people of Palestine in their endeavour to attain freedom following 21 years of occupation. Jordan which has been fully involved in supporting the Palestinians since the beginning of their uprising, and a long time before that, fully realises the conspiracies being hatched by world Zionism against the Arabs, and Israel's aim of causing rifts among the Arab ranks. Jordan has been active in its efforts to strengthen solidarity among Arab countries and succeeded in achieving this at the Amman summit and followed on this at the Algiers summit meeting. The Algiers summit has clearly shown to the world that the Arabs are one unity with common objectives and destiny. It proved to the world that the Arabs are determined to put an end to injustice and regain their usurped land.

Sawt Al Shaab: King outlines Jordan's policies

IN his address to the Arab leaders in Algiers King Hussein presented an outline of Jordan's policies and national stands since the beginning of the Palestine problem. The King explained the role played by the Great Arab Revolt and its leaders in rallying the Arabs and protecting their land and their identity. Jordan's endeavours to serve national causes are being reflected in this country's efforts to serve the Palestinians and to uphold their cause; and in the sacrifices offered in this field. The principles and the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt were honoured at the Algiers summit through the overwhelming support for joint action in helping the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom. Ever since the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt, the Hashemite leaders have been offering sacrifices for Palestine and the Arab people's national rights regardless of the arbitrary actions of the colonial rulers in our region. The uprising in the occupied Arab territories which won overwhelming support from the summit, has been and will continue to be the pre-occupation of Jordan until justice is done and the Palestinian people regain their freedom.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: King praises uprising

KING Hussein addressed the Arab leaders from a national perspective, openly discussing all issues related to the Palestine question and the Arab World. Praising the Palestinian uprising, the King said that the current Palestinian struggle represents the most important development in the Palestine history since 1948. He said that the Algiers summit is dedicated to a just cause, the Palestinian people, offering the leaders the chance to look into means for helping their brethren suffering under occupation. The Palestinian revolt against the Israeli occupation forces is closely linked with developments in the Arab World and complements Iraq's firm stand in repelling Iranian aggression. This revolt, the King added, is also in harmony with the Jordanian and Syrian stands in confrontation with the Israeli enemy. For this reason, the Algiers summit could be described as the summit of the central Arab issue. As to the Palestine-Jordanian relationship, the King pointed out that it embodies the joint struggle, the common aspirations and the interaction demographically, geographically and culturally between the two banks of the River Jordan, culminating in the 1950 unity. This unity has been strengthened over the years and maintained through continuous support and assistance to the Palestinians by their Jordanian brothers on the East Bank.

Al Dustour: Joint struggle

KING Hussein in an address to the Arab summit in Algiers described the current uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a real revolt that came as a culmination of the long years of sufferings. The King explained Jordan's stand with regard to the Palestine question since the beginning of the present century and outlined the sacrifices offered in this regard by the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt. He said that the 1950 unity between the two banks came as a result of the real desire and the genuine effort of the leaders and the representatives of the two peoples on both banks of the River Jordan. That unity was an expression by the two sides of the desire to achieve unity among all Arabs. For Jordan, Palestine and the peoples on both sides of the river and their long struggle and common aspirations. This relationship is of a special kind, and should be exemplary for all Arab countries. Jordan's stand towards the Palestine question has not changed ever since the 1948, and the six-point document handed over to the U.S. secretary of state sums up the Jordanian policy, embodying the aspirations of the two peoples.

Arab summit hails uprising, condemns Iran's intransigence

ALGIERS (R) — Extracts from the Arab-Israeli conflict from the final communique issued Thursday at the end of the extraordinary Arab summit (unofficial translation):

— The conference hailed the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people, which forms a link in the chain of its struggle which has continued for more than half a century, considering it an inseparable part of the Palestinian revolution.

— It hailed with honour and pride the heroic acts which the Palestinian people are registering in resisting the Israeli occupation and its magnificent determination to liberate its occupied land and practice its right to return, to self-determination and to set up its independent state on its national soil, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), its legitimate and only representative.

— It looked at measures to support the uprising, enhance its effectiveness and ensure that it continues and escalates. It affirmed its commitment to provide all necessary assistance, by all means and in all forms, to the Palestinian people to ensure that its resistance and uprising continue under the leadership of the PLO until it achieves its permanent national objectives.

— The conference renewed its commitment to support the states confronting the Israeli enemy to enable these states to strengthen their defence capabilities and make them more able to liberate occupied Arab territories and recover usurped Arab rights.

— The conference calls on the United Nations Security Council ... to work for immediate and complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory, to put the occupied territories under the temporary supervision of the United Nations to provide protection for the citizens and to pave the way for the Palestinian people to practice their inalienable national rights.

— The conference reviewed developments in efforts to establish peace in the Middle East and remarked that these efforts were still slow, ineffective and unable to deal with the Israeli position which insists on rejecting peace.

— The conference affirmed, once again, that the principles endorsed by Arab summit conferences, and especially the decisions of the Fez summit in 1982, form a basis for solving the Arab-Israeli conflict, the essence of which is the Palestinian question, and

renewed its support for holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East under United Nations supervision, on the basis of international legitimacy and United Nations resolutions which demand that Israel withdraw fully from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territory and guarantee the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, the participants to be the five permanent members of the Security Council and all the parties to the conflict in the area, including the PLO, the legitimate and only representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing and with the same rights as the other parties.

— The conference noted that the United States continued in its policy biased in favour of Israel and antagonistic to the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people. It condemned this policy which encourages Israel to pursue its aggression.

Gulf war

Extracts from the Gulf war from the final communique.

— The conference studied with great concern the subject of the Iran-Iraq war and the dangers arising from its continuation because of Iran's intransigence and its insistence on continuing the war, which has had an extreme effect on the mobilisation of Arab resources and energies to confront the Zionist enemy. The conference reaffirmed the resolutions which it took at the extraordinary Amman summit, which expressed the Arab position on this war and on what the states of the Arabian Gulf have been exposed to in the way of aggression, threat and interference in their internal affairs on the part of Iran. The conference renewed its solidarity with Iraq and its stand with it in its legitimate defence of its sovereignty and independence and it praised its (Iraq's) response to peace efforts and its acceptance of Security Council Resolution 598 as a way to reach an honourable, just and lasting solution to the conflict.

The conference renewed its condemnation and rejection of Iran's

occupation of Arab territory in Iraq, its continuation of the war, its lack of response to Arab and international peace initiatives and to resolutions issued by the United Nations and its refusal to heed Security Council Resolution 598.

The conference calls on the international community to implement Resolution 598 as an integral whole, in letter and in spirit.

— The conference hailed with honour and pride Iraq's liberation of Fao and Shuamjah and renewed its complete solidarity with Iraq to liberate the rest of its territory occupied by Iran, in commitment to its (Arab) national responsibility and in confirmation of its determination to protect Arab national security and the sovereignty of Arab territory.

— The conference reviewed the threats arising from the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war, which has started to affect the security and stability of some states in the area, and especially Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. It reaffirmed the decisions which it took at the extraordinary Amman summit and expressed the determination of the member states to stand beside the states of the Arabian Gulf in their confrontation with any external aggression.

— The conference also condemned all the forms of terrorism which Iran practices against the states of the Arabian Gulf, such as interfering in the internal affairs of these states and resorting to acts of violence and sabotage which affect the internal security of some Arab states, especially Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

— The conference affirmed that Arab national security is an inseparable unit and that any aggression against the sovereignty of any member states amounts to aggression against all Arab states.

— The conference expressed its solidarity and support for the measures which Saudi Arabia has taken to organise the pilgrimage to Mecca and ... reaffirmed its call for the need to respect the holy places, the rites of the pilgrimage, the security and safety of pilgrims and the sovereignty of Saudi Arabia.

Uprising takes solid root in West Bank, Gaza Strip

By Paul Taylor
Reuters

JABALYA, Gaza Strip — Six months ago, an Israeli truck ploughed into cars bringing Palestinian labourers home to this refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip from their jobs in Israel. Four workers died.

Their funeral turned into an anti-Israeli outburst. Angry refugees, convinced the crash was deliberate, attacked the Israeli army post in the centre of the camp with petrol bombs, stones and bottles.

Early the next morning, a soldier opened fire, killing Hatem Abu Sisi, 17, and wounding 19 other Palestinians.

So began the intifada, a mass uprising against Israeli occupation that has focused world attention on the Palestinian problem and sparked unprecedented condemnation of Israel's use of force from its closest Western allies.

At least 210 Palestinians have died and more than 5,000 have been injured in six months of almost daily protests and clashes with Israeli troops.

Although the violence is now far less widespread, the revolt has taken solid root among the 1.5 million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. They seem determined to go on fighting for an end to the Israeli rule they have endured since 1967.

Undaunted by economic hardship and collective punishments, many Palestinians say they have nothing to lose.

The uprising has changed Middle East politics.

Arab leaders are holding an emergency summit this week in Algiers to support the rebellion. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has been thrust back to the centre of the Arab stage.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has just completed his fourth unsuccessful Middle East tour this year, touting a peace plan aimed at ending the uprising against Washington's chief Middle East ally.

Among Israelis, the uprising has sparked an anti-Arab backlash, visible in widely-reported incidents of brutality, that could sweep a more right-wing nationalist government to power in November elections.

Israeli leaders say the intifada has achieved nothing and the Palestinians are only hurting themselves.

But the revolt has cost Israel dearly, damaging its economy, its world image and even its cherished democratic values.

Arab strikers have hit Israeli agriculture, textiles and construction. The violence has driven away tourists in droves.

Military reserve duty for all Israeli men aged up to 55 has been increased from a maximum

of 45 to 62 days this year. The sensitivity of Israelis to Palestinian human rights has been considerably numbed.

More than 2,000 Palestinian political prisoners are in detention without trial in primitive conditions in a desert prison camp amid Israeli indifference. They have not been charged with any offence or, in many cases, told why they are there.

About 5,000 Palestinians arrested in the uprising are still being held.

Added to 4,500 Arabs already serving jail terms for security offences before the intifada, this means one adult male in every 40 in the occupied territories is in prison.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's policy of "might, force, beatings" to quell the uprising caused international outrage in January and is still causing dozens of casualties every week.

"On a 'good' day, we have maybe 30 injured by beatings, rubber bullets and live ammunition," said a senior U.N. relief official in Gaza, surveying casualty figures for the last month. "On a bad day, there are 200 to 300 injured."

The daily lists include many children in their early teens, occasionally younger.

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FROM THE WORLD'S PRESS

U.S. may end up paying for uprising

OCCUPIED GAZA — As the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories reaches the half-year mark, the focus is shifting from the human toll to the financial one. The cost of the chaos — in lost economic opportunity, declining tourism and military expenses — already totals close to \$700 million for Israel alone, according to Israel's ministry of economy. To cover this cost, Israel will have to cut services or raise taxes — or send the bill to Uncle Sam.

"There's always this assumption that you can go to the U.S. and get more whenever you need it," says an American embassy official in Tel Aviv. "We've never disappointed them."

Israel's government, ever mindful of the mood of U.S. taxpayers, is unlikely to ask for additional financial aid this year. But, on the assumption that American memories of harsh Israeli tactics will fade, Israel may well seek an increase next year in the \$3 billion it already gets from the U.S. annually.

Meanwhile, the economic hardship for both Israelis and Palestinians grows. Ever since the 1967 war the Israelis have used the territories as both a labour pool and a market for their products. Now, Palestinians are determined to break their economic dependence, just as they are trying to end their political subservience with the creation of an independent state.

Thus, the economies of Israel and its occupied territories are being pulled apart. Israelis say that, with or without increased U.S. aid, they will pay whatever price their "security" requires. Palestinians, close to one another and to the land, also say they won't be broken, even if outside Arab support isn't forthcoming — The Wall Street Journal.

Taba spells trouble for both sides

OCCUPIED TABA — Just over the horizon a diplomatic cloud is forming that could cast a dark shadow on this premier beach playground.

A panel of five arbitrators is meeting in Geneva to settle a nine-year controversy over whether Taba really belongs to Israel. The sliver of desert on the Red Sea coast is also claimed by Egypt. Failure to resolve the dispute could plunge Israeli-Egyptian relations — already strained by dissatisfaction with the fruits of the 1979 Camp David treaty — into a major diplomatic crisis.

An unfavourable judgment is also likely to make Taba one of the most contentious political issues in Israel. The country's leading political blocs, Labour and Likud, could launch an acrimonious election-year debate over "who lost Taba."

For almost a year the United States has been trying to help the two sides reach an out-of-court settlement before the arbitration panel makes its findings. U.S. efforts to broker the dispute date to the early 1980s.

Israel claims that 1906 British maps placed Taba in Palestine. Egypt's claim to the tiny patch to desert is based on border markings set when the 1949 armistice agreement between Egypt and Israel was signed — The Christian Science Monitor.

Norway, Israel reach compromise

OSLO (R) — Norway and Israel have resolved a dispute over heavy water sold by Oslo almost 30 years ago, but government sources said the compromise solution would not allow Norway to check whether it was used to make atomic weapons.

Foreign Ministry spokesman John Bjoernesby told Reuters Friday that Norway could now inspect heavy water left over from a secret 1959 sale to Israel.

"The solution is a compromise," Bjoernesby said. "Although we will run chemical analysis, it will give us no real opportunity to find out what it has been used for."

Norway sold the water on condition that it was used only for peaceful purposes. In late 1986 Oslo demanded the right to inspection after suspicions were roused that Israel had used it to make plutonium for atomic weapons.

Israel refuses to confirm or deny that it possesses such weapons and initially turned down the request.

Bjoernesby said the water, of which about nine tonnes remain from the original 20, had been mixed with supplies from other countries. A Norwegian request to inspect the water at Israel's Dimona nuclear reactor had also been turned down.

But in this week's final round of negotiations in Oslo, Israel had reversed its original rejection of a request for the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect the water on Norway's behalf.

"That was their part of the compromise," one government source said. "We have also won the right to inspect our water, through the IAEA, every time it is used in the future."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Soviet envoy to brief Mubarak

CAIRO (AP) — A Senior Soviet diplomat once expelled from Egypt by presidential order arrived in Cairo Friday as a special envoy on a briefing mission. The three-day visit by Vladimir Polyakov, director of the Foreign Ministry's Near East and North Africa Department, reflected greatly improved Cairo-Moscow relations since President Hosni Mubarak took office in 1981. Polyakov told reporters on arrival that he had been assigned by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev "to convey to President Mubarak details of the results of the recent American-Soviet summit in Moscow." "Good relations now exist between Egypt and the Soviet Union," Polyakov said, speaking in Russian through an Arabic interpreter. He added that last month's visit to Moscow by Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid, the first of its kind in 14 years, further improved bilateral ties. During his visit, Polyakov is to meet with Mubarak and state Minister for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali. Polyakov was ambassador in Cairo in 1981 when then-President Anwar Sadat launched a massive crackdown on domestic opponents. It included the expulsion of Polyakov and six other Soviet diplomats whom Sadat accused of meddling in internal affairs.

Judge reserves decision in PLO case

NEW YORK (R) — A top United Nations official told a U.S. judge Wednesday that the world organisation could not stand by while the United States tried to close the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) U.N. mission. The comment came during a 2½ hour hearing by District Judge Edmund Palmieri, who said he would reach a decision in the case soon. Under-Secretary General Carl-August Fleischhauer, who spoke as a friend of the court, said the United Nations "cannot stand by" while the United States "unilaterally abrogated and violated" its agreements. He did not spell out what measures the United Nations would take but said it wished "to live harmoniously with the host country (the U.S.)."

Peres names deputies

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, head of the Labour Party, announced Thursday that Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin would be second on the party's list in the upcoming parliament elections. The third place on the list will be reserved for Education Minister Yitzhak Navon. Peres told his party's central committee in Tel Aviv. "I have spoken both with Yitzhak Navon and Yitzhak Rabin, and they both made my life difficult," he said in remarks broadcast by Israel army radio. "They said: whatever you decide, that's it." Peres as party leader is number one on the list for the Nov. 1 election to the 120-seat Knesset. In Israel, the vote is for a party, not individuals. Each party makes up a list of its candidates in ranked order, and the percentage of the vote it gets determines how many on the list will serve in parliament.

Perez de Cuellar urges Turkey to cut Cyprus force

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar called Thursday for Turkey to withdraw its troops from the northern part of Cyprus as a start to building confidence between the ethnic Greek and Turkish sides on the island.

In a written report to the Security Council that covered developments in the six-month period to May 31, he expressed hope for new, successful negotiations but added that he did not underestimate the difficulties ahead.

President George Vassiliou of Cyprus and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş are expected to meet next month to revive high-level attempts to resolve the problems of the divided island.

Perez de Cuellar noted that the matter had been before the Security Council for 25 years. "There has been a natural tendency for both sides to become entrenched in long-held positions," he said.

It would require statesmanship of a high order to break free from those positions and make a new attempt to bridge the wide differences existing, Perez de Cuellar said.

"If this dream is to be fulfilled, every effort must be made to overcome existing distrust and to build confidence between the two sides," he said. "They must be encouraged to show respect for each other's concern and to discuss with good will how these concerns can be met."

There must be no further attempts to change the status quo and public statements should be moderated, the secretary general said.

Efforts should also be made to reestablish contacts at every level between two communities that had been growing apart at what he called a distressing rate.

His representatives stood ready to do all they could to help, he said.

Building confidence was principally a matter for the Greek and Turkish-Cypriots, but others too could assist.

"In particular," he said, "Great benefits would be derived if Turkey would make a start by reducing its troops in the northern part of the island. I again appeal to the government of Turkey to take this step."

Tehran leaders meet Montazeri amid reports Khomeini may be dying

NICOSIA (Agencies) — At least two of Iran's top leaders have met with Ayatollah Hussein-Ali Montazeri, designated successor of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, amid reports that the long-ailing revolutionary patriarch was dying.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said that Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani conferred Wednesday with Montazeri in the holy city of Qom, 160 kilometres south of Tehran.

The agency said that President Ali Khamenei also saw Montazeri in Qom Thursday.

In both cases, IRNA said the two political leaders discussed "current issues," but did not elaborate.

Rafsanjani and Khamenei are political rivals in the power struggle that has been taking place in the Tehran hierarchy for some time over who will run the country when Khomeini dies.

Khomeini, 87, has long been

reported to be in frail condition since he suffered a heart attack two years ago.

There have also been unconfirmed reports that he also has cancer. Iran's official media has made no recent reference to Khomeini's health.

The U.S. CBS Television network reported Thursday night that intelligence reports indicated that Khomeini "may now be very close to death."

It quoted the intelligence reports as saying that "the ayatollah's cancer has spread from his prostate to his liver" and that he "may only have two or three months to live."

Speculation that the Iranian leader's condition was deteriorat-

ing heightened when he appointed Rafsanjani, one of his closest aides, acting commander-in-chief of Iran's armed forces June 2.

Khomeini had held that title under Iran's revolutionary constitution.

His action was clearly linked to two recent battlefield defeats Iran has suffered in the war with Iraq.

Khomeini, who last week declared the war would be won on the battlefield and not at the negotiating table, ordered Rafsanjani to reorganise Iran's fractious military forces.

Tehran Radio quoted Rafsanjani as saying June 3 that it was no longer possible for Khomeini "to personally run the administrative affairs" of Iran's various military forces.

President Khamenei said Friday that the regular army would not be merged with the Revolutionary Guards Corps.

Khamenei charged that speculation the two military forces would be unified was "poisonous propaganda by the imperialist mass media," IRNA reported.

Khamenei said that all Iranian leaders agreed that the army and the Revolutionary Guards must remain separate organisations.

"These two organisations, by using all the facilities and experiences of each other, will decisively end the war like two brothers in their defensive strongholds," Khamenei told worshippers at a weekly prayer session at Tehran University.

But he confirmed that some military facilities, such as some training and logistics centres, would be abandoned.

Speculation that the army and the Revolutionary Guards would be merged was triggered June 2 when Khomeini appointed Rafsanjani as acting commander-in-chief.

Khomeini's decree ordered Rafsanjani to set up a "general command headquarters and organise the full coordination of the armed forces."

Israeli MK says tear-gas caused 30 miscarriages

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli member of Knesset (parliament) said Thursday that the army caused up to 30 miscarriages through misuse of tear-gas in its bid to quash the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Gaza Strip.

Dedi Zucker of the Citizens' Rights Movement made the charge in a letter he sent to the health and defence ministries with a separate report by six Israeli doctors accusing the army of excesses.

"The evidence is strong that gas has been misused. Unnecessary damage has been caused, including death or miscarriages, mainly by throwing it indoors," he told Reuters.

"Many times tear-gas is directed at closed areas despite professional warnings of the substantial danger to life," Zucker said doctors at Gaza's

Shifa hospital believed that 30 of 478 miscarriages between December and March could be attributed to tear-gas. The 30 were among 116 women who said they were exposed to the gas.

He said Israeli officials were aware of these statistics.

Zucker, a human rights activist, organised the team of Israeli doctors — with the help of defence officials — to examine the medical situation in Gaza amid accusations the army used excessive force.

An army spokesman denied Zucker's allegations, saying they contradicted the very conclusions of the six doctors.

The doctors' report found that some units used more force than others, that troops ignored warnings about the use of tear-gas and that the army failed adequately to investigate the cause of deaths.

Arab leaders pledge total support for uprising

(Continued from page 1)

states had agreed separately to extend financial support to boost the Palestinian uprising.

Conference sources said the financial help for the uprising was set at \$118 million for the first year.

The five-page statement said the summit condemned Washington's policy in the region as "biased in favour of Israel and antagonistic to Palestinian national rights."

Referring indirectly to U.S. plans which Secretary of State George Shultz has been pressing on a tour of the Middle East, it said peace efforts were "slow, ineffective; and incapable of standing up to the Israeli position which insists on rejecting peace."

The summit hailed the intifada (uprising), saying the assembled kings, presidents and emirs expressed honour and pride in the Palestinian people's resistance to Israeli occupation.

It spoke of the people's "magnificent determination to liberate its occupied land... and to set up its independent state."

It called for an international peace conference "under the auspices of the United Nations and on the basis U.N. resolutions that call on Israel to withdraw from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories."

It said the five permanent members of the Security Council and all the parties to the conflict including the PLO must take part "on an equal footing and with equal rights."

The communique noted that the summit "condemned international terrorism in all its forms, especially Israel's organised terrorism against the Palestinian people and the Arabs in general."

The summit statement did not mention the possibility of an Egyptian return to the Arab League, which was strongly urged at the summit by Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states but fiercely resisted by Syria and Libya.

Call on Iran

The summit reaffirmed call issued at last November's extraordinary Arab summit in Amman on Iran to end its Gulf war with Iraq.

It denounced Iran's terrorism against other Gulf countries and charged it with interfering in the internal affairs of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

The summit expressed support for efforts to regulate and organise the annual pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

The statement said conditions for Arab participation in a Middle East peace conference were first proclaimed in 1982.

It listed them as:

— The conference should be held under U.N. auspices.

— It should be based on U.N. resolutions demanding Israel's complete withdrawal from occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

— It should guarantee the national rights of the Palesti-

nians.

— Participants should include all interested parties, including the PLO as sole representative of the Palestinian people on an equal footing with other parties.

In an unexpected move, the summit came out in support of Libya against the United States.

The statement, read by Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi, said the summit condemned what it described as U.S. aggression against Libya, an apparent reference to air raids in April 1986 after a series of hijackings which Washington said were backed by Libya.

The conference also voiced support for Libyan sovereignty over the Gulf of Sirte, which is disputed by the United States.

After an earlier 2½-hour meeting, sources close to the delegates said that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates agreed to "specific sums" to be granted for the uprising and to Jordan and Syria.

But the PLO's chief spokesman, Bassam Abu Sharif, told reporters the Arab leaders agreed to keep the precise sums they have promised a secret to avoid showing their hand to the Israelis.

Sources told the AP the PLO states would channel funds to the uprising through the PLO, Jordan and the joint Jordanian-PLO committee entrusted with Palestinian affairs. They said the finan-

cial situation would be reviewed at a later stage, possibly at the next regular Arab summit meeting to be held in Saudi Arabia in November.

The statement said the summit discussed ways of backing the intifada to "enhance its effectiveness and ensure it continues and escalates... under the leadership of the PLO."

It made no mention of any specific financial commitments.

The statement said the summit had renewed its commitment to aid Arab states confronting Israel to enable them to strengthen their defences and enhance their ability to liberate the occupied Arab territories.

Delegates said this was a reference to a \$3.5 billion a year aid package to Syria, Jordan and the PLO agreed at a 1978 Arab summit in Baghdad and due to expire this year.

In a speech before the summit Wednesday, His Majesty King Hussein said Jordan had only received about half of the money. Syria and the PLO also have complained about unfulfilled promises.

Lebanese President Amin Gemayel warned Arab leaders at the summit that the Iranian-backed fundamentalist presence in his country should be purged before it spreads to other states in the region.

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EC, Comecon initial diplomatic accord

MOSCOW (AP) — Members of the European Community (EC) and the East Bloc trade organisation (Comecon) established diplomatic relations Thursday, paving the way for a formal signing ceremony later this month.

The official news agency TASS said an agreement calling for official relations between the EC and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance was initiated Thursday after talks in Moscow. The declaration will be signed at a ceremony in Luxembourg on June 25.

"Favourable opportunities open to develop cooperation between the two international organisations and countries forming them in many areas, above all in science and technology, environmental protection, the power industry — especially nuclear — as well as the implementation of pan-European projects," TASS said.

By signing the agreement, Comecon nations will officially recognise the EC for the first time since the West European trade bloc, which now comprises 12 nations, was founded 31 years ago.

Trade between Comecon nations has not progressed at the rate expected because of artificial currency exchange rates between member countries.

The EC-Comecon accord does not cover trade relations which the EC says must continue to be subject to bilateral accords. All Comecon nations, except the Soviet Union, have signed limited agreements in specific trade areas.

One hope raised by the declaration is that it will lead to better economic links between East and West Europe.

The EC currently is trying to boost trade ties with Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Romania, while such talks with the Soviet Union still are in the preliminary stage.

after Comecon lifted its objection to regarding West Berlin as part of EC territory. It will accept this but at the same time state the declaration does not affect the four-power agreement regulating Berlin's status. The city was partitioned into zones under the control of the United States, Soviet Union, Britain and France following the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945.

Provisional figures show the EC and Eastern Europe did \$53 billion worth of trade last year with the EC running a trade deficit of some \$6 billion because of imports of raw materials from the Soviet Union.

However, these figures do not include trade between West and East Germany which, as part of a special agreement, is considered intra-German trade.

Private consumption forecast to remain driving force for W. German economy

PARIS (R) — Private consumption, stimulated by tax cuts, would provide the main driving force for the West German economy again this year, helping to counteract forecasts of sluggish growth that followed last October's stock market crash, the OECD said Friday.

immediate aftermath of the stock market crisis," the Paris-based economic forum said.

It cited an export-led, seven-per-cent surge in industrial orders in the first two months of this year and improved business confidence as a result of greater exchange rate stability and lower interest rates.

The OECD forecast that West Germany's gross national product (GNP) would grow by 2.25 per cent this year and 1.75 per cent in 1989, significantly faster than its forecast last December of 1.5 per cent growth this year and 1.25 per cent next.

Six months ago the West German government took the rare step of issuing a public statement disputing OECD suggestions that

measures were needed to boost its growth rate, stating bluntly that "from the German point of view the present economic situation does not require further measures."

The OECD did not repeat the criticism in its latest report, acknowledging that West German worries about limiting the budget deficit would restrict the scope for further measures to boost economic growth.

It noted simply that domestic demand in West Germany was projected to grow below the European average over the next two years, rising 2.75 per cent in 1988 and 2.25 per cent in 1989.

The OECD's forecast of 1.75 per cent growth next year is more optimistic than the 1.25 per cent

growth prediction by West Germany's five leading economic research institutes, with economists arguing that government plans to raise some indirect consumer taxes in 1989 could put a brake on expansion.

But the OECD forecast was more cautious than Bonn's own prediction for 1989, which puts growth at the lower end of the range of two to 2.5 per cent seen for the next five years.

"Private consumption, stimulated by tax cuts, should remain the mainstay of economic growth in 1988," the OECD said. Private consumption is forecast to rise 3.25 per cent this year, similar to the 1987 increase, and 2.5 per cent in 1989.

Prices rise at AFM

AMMAN (Petra) — Last week's activities at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) witnessed an upsurge in the volume of trading and a noticeable improvement in the price of shares, according to an official statement released Thursday.

The statement said that the average volume of daily trading stood at JD 361,309, while the total volume was JD 1,806,547.

Shares that exchanged hands during last week's operations were 1,877,071 concluded through a total of 2,358 transactions, the statement noted.

It said that industrial sector shares were worth JD1,115,889 accounting for 61.8 per cent of the total volume of trading.

Shares of banks and financial companies were worth JD 541,223 or 30 per cent of the total

volume of trading.

The services sector, accounted for eight per cent and the insurance sector for 0.2 per cent, according to the statement.

The statement also noted that last week's operations brought about a rise in the price of shares of banks, industry and the services sector while the price of shares of the insurance sector remained stable.

The closing price index at the market was 115.1 points compared with 113.5 points at the start of the week, thus showing a 1.6 per cent improvement in general.

During last week, shares of 71 companies were traded, 35 of which improved in value, 16 others showed a decline while there was stability in the prices of the remaining 20 companies.

Jordan, Syria to boost role of joint free zone

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The general assembly of the Syrian-Jordanian Free Zones Company has held its first meeting this year at the company's headquarters, at the border town of Deraa, to discuss the company's activities and operations.

The meeting, under the co-chairmanship of Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbaa and Syrian Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Mohammad Al Imadi, reviewed the company's board of directors' activities in the past year and the new measures being taken for investments in the company's zone straddling the common border.

The company has completed the installation of various facilities within the zone on an area estimated at one and a half million square metres, extending from the Jordanian village of Jaber to the Syrian village of Naseeb, according to a statement here following the meetings.

The statement said that the general assembly discussed effective measures for encouraging Arab and foreign investments in the zone and endorsed the final accounts and report of the company's financial situation at the end of 1987.

Tabbaa, who spoke to reporters after the meeting, said that the general assembly discussed many topics that would give impetus to investments in the free zone, and passed a number of important resolutions offering incentives to Arab and foreign investors.

Imadi, for his part, said that the company's general assembly took important steps towards encouraging investments in the free zone and reiterated a commitment on the part of Jordan and Syria to apply all regulations and laws connected with the zone and investment operations, specially with regard to the exemption of duty and other taxes and easing procedures related to investors' operations.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.8185/95	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2165/75	Canadian dollar
	1.7170/80	Deutschmarks
	1.9270/80	Dutch guilders
	1.4325/35	Swiss francs
	35.88/93	Belgian francs
	5.7990/8020	French francs
	1277/1278	Italian lire
	124.90/125.00	Japanese yen
	5.993/98	Swedish crowns
	6.2760/2810	Norwegian crowns
	6.5310/60	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	457.30/457.80	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The national share market closed easier in moderate trade on technical selling ahead of the long weekend. The All Ordinaries index fell 3.7 to 1,586.7.

TOKYO — Share prices closed down in heavy trade marked by fears of currency instability and a reaction to the retreat on Wall Street overnight. The Nikkei index fell 151.66 to 27,920.36.

HONG KONG — Share prices closed firmer on strong buying, but eased from their highs on late profit-taking ahead of the long holiday weekend in Hong Kong. The Hang Seng index rose 6.59 to 2,647.42.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed marginally higher on speculative buying and bargain-hunting, with sporadic profit-taking well absorbed. The Straits Times industrial index rose 3.83 to 1,046.43.

BOMBAY — Share prices fell for the second successive day on heavy selling triggered by fears of harsh measures against excessive speculation.

FRANKFURT — Shares recovered from a poor start but still ended down on Thursday's close. The Commerzbank index, set at mid-session, fell 12.1 to 1,417.7.

PARIS — Prices ended the last session before Sunday's second-round parliamentary elections narrowly firmer in quiet trading.

ZURICH — Shares were little changed with a slightly lower bias, although banks were a fraction higher. The All Share Swiss index was down 1.9 at 847.9.

LONDON — Prices were mixed with a marginally firmer bias after a dull session. By 1445 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 3.3 at 1,846.1.

NEW YORK — Stocks pulled back in morning trading after brief early gains. Brokers blamed profit-taking and a continuing rise in commodities futures contract prices. The Dow was up three at 2,096.

Mubarak signs investment law

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, has signed a new law to control the multi-billion-dollar business of Islamic investment companies.

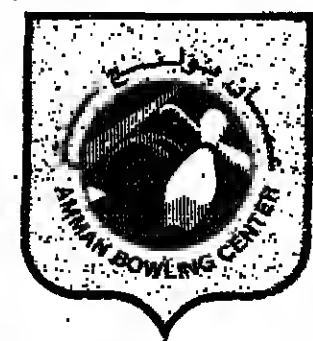
He approved the law late Thursday, less than 48 hours after its passage by parliament, the national Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

The government said the law, which will force private Islamic firms to go public and subject them to scrutiny by a state regulatory agency, was not hostile to the companies.

Owners have protested at the legislation saying it could threaten their investments. They deny charges of mismanagement.

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S. Africa extends state of emergency

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — President P.W. Botha Friday extended the two-year nationwide state of emergency for another year and tightened restrictions on the news media.

The continuation of the emergency, after it was due to expire at midnight, had already been anticipated by politicians.

His proclamation, which means hundreds of prominent activists will remain in jail without charge, was assailed by anti-apartheid leaders. White women from the Black Sash Civil Rights Group stood along highways in Johannesburg during the morning rush hour with posters saying: "Apartheid is the emergency."

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said extension of the emergency "is a pointless and bankrupt exercise" that "aggravates South Africa's crisis." The Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said activists must "intensify our call for comprehensive economic sanctions against this apartheid regime."

Botha's announcement came two days after blacks ended their biggest and longest general strike against the government. Black labour federations said about 1,000 of the workers who took part in the protest have been fired.

The new emergency decree took effect immediately upon publication of a special government gazette in Pretoria. New

restrictions in the gazette bar all media from quoting any spokesman for an outlawed or restricted organisation, effectively silencing members of major anti-apartheid groups that were banned in February from conducting political activities.

Existing press restrictions were tightened to prohibit news media from reporting that journalists had been barred from the scene of protests. Another new section requires local news agencies to register with the government.

These domestic news agencies, many of them aggressive in covering anti-apartheid activity, could be ordered to submit all dispatches to a government censor before publication, the regulations say. Another section gives the government power to extend the suspensions of two anti-apartheid newspapers, New Nation and South, which were closed down in recent months. New Nation's editor, Zwelakhe Sisulu, has been detained without charge since December 1986.

"It is indeed the aspiration of the government that conditions will change to such an extent that the declared state of emergency can be lifted," Botha said in a statement.

"Intimidation and terror are

aimed at undermining the political, economic and social activities of all our communities. It is also being employed to disrupt our courts and legal procedures," he said.

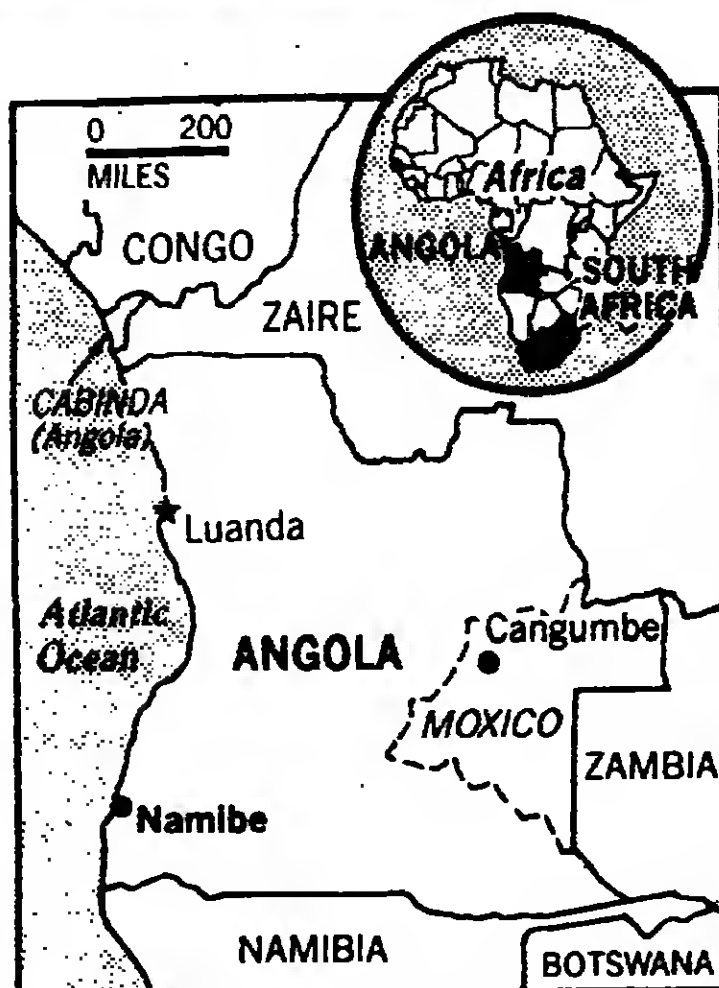
The emergency regulations allow sweeping powers of detention, outlaw many forms of peaceful anti-government protest and restrict freedom of speech, press and assembly.

Helen Suzman, a long-serving member of parliament for the anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party, said Botha's announcement was "extremely depressing, and hardly likely to restore confidence in the future stability of South Africa."

"We might just as well prepare ourselves for a permanent state of emergency," independent member of parliament Jan van Eck said. "A minority regime will not be able to govern this country without the very wide and very arbitrary powers afforded by the state of emergency."

Under apartheid, South Africa's 26 million blacks have no vote in national affairs. The five million whites control the economy and maintain separate residential districts, schools and health services.

About 40,000 people, including 10,000 children, have been detained at some point during the past two years, according to the outlawed Detainees Parents Support Committee. About 2,500 people are believed to remain detained.



Tension mounts on Namibian border

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African and opposing Cuban forces were massing in bushland on the Angolan-Namibian border Thursday, prompting fears of a major confrontation.

Pretoria announced it was calling up reservists to counter a thrust down Angola's West African coast which had brought Cuban units to within 12 kilometres of the frontier with South African-ruled Namibia.

Army Chief General Janne Geldenhuys said a force of up to 12,000 Cubans and black fighters had formed a 450 kilometre belt along the western end of the border.

Western diplomats said the Cubans' motives were unclear but their deployment on Namibia's doorstep could force Pretoria into a pre-emptive strike.

Geldenhuys returned from the area Wednesday and told a brief-

ing for South African military correspondents: "The situation is serious... but we can handle it."

He reported a minor skirmish last week between his men and a Cuban patrol near a hydro-electric power station at Ruacana on the border.

The military build-up clouded negotiations for an end to a civil war which has beset pro-Moscow Angola since it gained independence from Portugal in 1975 and became an arena for superpower rivalry.

Fighting has been heavy for the past nine months. Last October South Africa deployed thousands of men and heavy artillery to help right-wing Angolan rebels repel a large Soviet- and Cuban-led offensive in the southeast.

In Lusaka, the Angolan ambassador to Zambia, Luis Neto Kiamata, said the Cubans' objective was "not to attack anybody."

Soviet ethnic protests continue

MOSCOW (R) — Strikes, demonstrations and street clashes are continuing in Soviet Transcaucasia over a Kremlin refusal to redraw regional borders and local authorities are struggling for control in the area at the heart of the dispute.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said Friday that marches and strikes had paralysed production, vigilantes were patrolling the streets and food was short in the Azerbaijani enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, where ethnic Armenians are defying the Kremlin refusal to make the area part of nearby Armenia.

In a separate move reflecting nationalist feeling, the party newspaper in the Baltic republic of Estonia said the creation of a new political movement there would boost democracy and restore the declining world prestige of the party and socialist system.

Sovietskaya Estonia discussed plans to set up a national front organisation to function alongside but independently of party

and government. It would be the first organisation of its kind in the country, where the party holds all political power.

In Nagorno-Karabakh a party official said protests were continuing in the region, which is administered by Azerbaijan but mainly populated by ethnic Armenians.

"People are marching around town mornings and evenings," the official told Reuters by telephone from Stepanakert, the region's capital.

Protesters are determined to keep marching until they get a response from local authorities, the official said. Pravda said shops, factories and restaurants in Stepanakert were closed and public transport was not working.

Ethnic tension is running high and Armenians have hired vigilantes to protect themselves, but these special patrol groups have become "hotbeds of conflict, and there were a number of clashes," Pravda said but gave no details.

S. Korean students battle police to reach border

SEOUL (AP) — Radical students attacked riot police with firebombs and clubs in street clashes Friday as they battled to reach the North Korean border for reunification talks.

Police chased thousands of screaming students in the centre of Seoul who were trying to reach the main train station to take trains to the border. Police bottled up 5,000 students in Yonsei University who failed to escape despite vicious fighting.

"We fight for unification," students chanted as they tried to break through police lines to make their way to the border 50 kilometres north of Seoul for talks with North Korean students.

At Yonsei, police officers screamed in pain as firebombs hit them and exploded in flames. Students wielding wooden and iron clubs beat troops trying to ward off blows with shields. Both sides pelted each other with rocks

and bricks.

Black police armoured cars fired volley after volley of choking tear gas into the ranks of the charging students as police martial arts squads counterattacked. Students tried to immobilise the vans with firebombs and clubs.

Scores were injured at Yonsei, but authorities had no overall figures. Police officers and students with burns or bleeding cuts were carried away or staggered to safety. A student hit in the head by a tear gas shell was in critical condition.

Across Seoul, police reported arresting more than 500 students.

Police battled several thousand students who demonstrated in support of the reunification march in the provincial cities of Taejeon, Iri, Chunja, Chonan and Kongju. Troopers fired tear gas to drive protesters back onto campuses as students hurled firebombs and rocks.

Glenn strong candidate for Dukakis mate

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Glenn says the Democrats' vice presidential nominee should be a national hero, a former astronaut and a midwesterner with foreign policy experience.

"But I've talked to Neil Armstrong, and he's not interested," joked the Ohio senator about the first man to walk on the moon. It is, of course, Glenn, himself a former astronaut, who best fits his own description of a running mate for probable nominee Michael Dukakis. And many Democratic insiders agree that the first American to orbit the earth would be a good choice.

Even Jesse Jackson's campaign manager, Gerald Austin, puts Glenn on his vice-presidential list, right behind Jackson.

"It's a great American story. You take Mike Dukakis, son of Greek immigrants, and John Glenn, a small-town boy who married his childhood sweetheart, a woman who overcame a stuttering problem — and then Glenn goes on to be the world's most famous astronaut and a U.S. Senator," said Austin, a political consultant.

And a recent California poll provides another argument for Glenn, who hails from New Concord, Ohio. Paired with Dukakis, he bested Bush and the local favourite, California governor George Deukmejian, by 13 points in that survey.

India denies Fiji claim

SYDNEY (AP) — A newspaper Friday said India's Intelligence Service tried to overthrow Fiji's Melanesian-dominated government by smuggling tons of weapons to its Indian community.

The report in the newspaper, the Australian, drew a quick denial from Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, who said he would have known of such shipments. The Indian embassy in Canberra also issued a vigorous denial.

The Australian, the country's only national broadsheet, quoted unidentified Australian Intelligence sources and a U.S. government official in Washington as saying Western intelligence services blamed the India for the shipments to the volatile south Pacific island nation, a former British colony 2,993 kilometres northeast of Sydney.

It said the Soviet-made arms, which included rocket launchers, anti-tank mines, automatic rifles and grenades, were part of a plan to overthrow the nominally civilian, Melanesian-dominated government, which came to power after two coups last year.

Fiji's security forces this week seized two large caches of arms from two Indian-owned sugar cane farms. Authorities followed with a roundup of Indian businessmen.

Ruling party wins regional elections in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (AP) — The ruling United National Party won 36 of 53 seats at stake in provincial council elections in the island's southern province, final results from the elections department showed Friday.

An opposition leader accused the government of fraud. Ruling party candidates won 12 seats each in the Matara, Galle and Hambantota districts that make up the southern province.

Their closest rivals, candidates in the opposition United Socialist Alliance, a combination of leftist parties, won 15 seats and independent candidates two seats in the balloting Thursday, the department said.

Results from the Hambantota and Matara districts were broad-

cast by the state-run television at around 5:30 a.m. (0000 GMT) Friday, while those from Galle, 103 kilometres south of Colombo, were reported at about 4 p.m. (1030 GMT).

Official statements said some ballot boxes had been delayed en route to the Galle town where votes were tallied. Y.B. de Silva, a leading member of the United Socialist Alliance, said extremist Sinhalese subversives of the People's Liberation Front launched attacks to disrupt the poll and intimidate voters.

"This was because there was a complete breakdown of law and order. The voters were threatened by both sides, including the government," he said.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Food programme approves \$462 million

ROME (AP) — The World Food Programme Thursday approved \$462 million worth of development projects, with much of the aid aimed at sub-Saharan Africa. The U.N. agency, in a statement from its Rome headquarters after a meeting of its governing body, said that \$439 million of that sum will cover new projects. In all, the money will mean nearly 1 million metric tons of food aid. Half of the 24 projects covered by the funding are for agricultural and rural development, the statement said. Among the projects approved are plans for reforestation in Mali, food for pre-school children and pregnant or nursing women in Malawi, efforts aimed at soil conservation in China and a dairy development project in Nicaragua.

Greenpeace attempts to block U.S. navy

PALMA, Balearic Islands (AP) — Sailors aboard a U.S. navy aircraft carrier Thursday drove off boats carrying anti-nuclear protesters who tried to keep it from docking at a port on the Spanish Mediterranean island of Majorca. The environmentalist group Greenpeace said crewmen on the 317-metre U.S.S. Dwight D. Eisenhower turned high-pressure fire hoses on four Greenpeace rubber launches and their 46-metre mother ship Sirius. A U.S. official who asked not to be identified confirmed that Greenpeace had "attempted to interfere with the docking," but said the Eisenhower docked successfully without damages or injuries on either side. Greenpeace official Xavier Pastor said in a communiqué the action was a protest against the Spanish government for allowing nuclear weapons in its territorial waters in violation of a March 1986 referendum. In the referendum, Spaniards voted to retain membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation on condition that Spain be kept free of nuclear weapons, the U.S. military presence in Spain be reduced and the country's armed forces remain outside the integrated NATO military command.

U.S. embassy warns of terrorist threats

PEKING (R) — The U.S. embassy in Peking Thursday warned Americans in the city of a possible terrorist attack from an unidentified "third country." An embassy spokesman said Chinese authorities had urged the embassy to inform the estimated 1,500 U.S. citizens in Peking of the threat. The warning issued by the embassy contained no specific information on a possible attack but said: "The embassy believes this reflects a genuine threat to American citizens in Beijing (Peking)." "American citizens should avoid locations known to be gathering points for Americans or foreigners, such as certain restaurants, markets and nightclubs," it said.

Landmark decision in homosexuality case

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal appeals court Thursday set aside its landmark ruling that struck down the U.S. army's ban on homosexuals. In response to the government's appeal, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of appeals referred the case to an 11-member panel of the court for a new hearing and nullified a decision Feb. 10 in favour of a discharged gay soldier. Besides declaring the army's policy on sexual orientation unconstitutional, the February ruling was the first by a federal appeals court that said homosexuals were entitled to the same protection against government discrimination as racial minorities. No date has been set for a new hearing. The 25-judge court did not give details of the vote to refer the case to the 11-member panel.

Mortar hits American embassy in Peru

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Leftist guerrillas fired a mortar round Thursday at the U.S. embassy residence, causing minor damage to the roof but no injuries, embassy and police officials said.

U.S. embassy spokesman Joao Escodi said Ambassador Alexander Watson, his wife and their infant daughter were in the two-storey, colonial-style residence and heard one mortar round strike the roof.

He said Watson was having breakfast when the attack occurred at 6:30 a.m. (1130 GMT).

"The ambassador thought at first it was the backfire of a car. It was not a big explosion," Escodi said.

He said a 60 millimetre mortar round destroyed a ramp and lighting fixtures on the roof that illuminated the U.S. flag that flies from the top of the building. Escodi said there was no other

damage.

Members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, a pro-Cuba guerrilla group, left leaflets at the site from which the mortar was fired, about one block from the residence, Escodi said.

The leaflets commemorated the death of a pro-Cuba guerrilla leader, Luis de la Puente, who launched his insurgency June 9, 1965. He was killed in combat four months later and his group

broken up. The Tupac Amaru band became active in 1984.

Police said at least three rebels fired three rounds at the residence before escaping in a waiting car, but Escodi said the embassy was aware of only two mortar rounds.

"We heard about two. They found bits and pieces of one on the roof and one elsewhere on the grounds," Escodi said.

Journalists demand inquiry into Mexico killings

By Javier Pichardini
The Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico — Gunmen and assassins have killed as many as 29 journalists in Mexico in the past six years in what may be a concerted effort to intimidate reporters investigating drug trafficking and criticising political figures.

Journalists are demanding the government of President Miguel de la Madrid take more forceful action to stop those they believe are trying to censor them not by official blue pencil but by the gun.

Some say the number of killings have risen along with an increase of drug trafficking through Mexico. Shock waves still are being felt from the latest in the series of killings, the shooting death April 20 in this northwestern border city of columnist Hector Felix Miranda of the outspoken weekly Zeta who often wrote about politics.

An automobile overtook Felix Miranda, known as "Felix the cat," as he was driving to his office at the newspaper that morning. A man stepped out of the car and fired three shots from a 12-calibre shotgun.

Federal judicial police arrested Victoriano Medina on May 1 and charged him with the murder, but they said he may just have been a triggerman acting for others. Many of the columnist's colleagues question whether any others who may be responsible for the killing will be brought to justice.

Constant threat

Among the allegations circulating are that high-ranking politicians who were satirised or criticised in Felix Miranda's columns might have been involved.

"We don't dismiss that possibility," said Jesus Blancornelas, the co-director with Felix Miranda of the Tijuana weekly.

Rosario Ibarra, presidential candidate for the small Revolutionary Workers Party, recently

voiced concern about what she called the alarming rate at which journalists have been "threatened, suppressed and assassinated."

"We must protest for the journalists who have been silenced," she told reporters at a news conference. "You form part of the consciousness of the people of Mexico."

Freedom House, a New York-based human rights monitoring group, said in its latest "Freedom in the World" report that the Mexican press operated under constant threat of intimidation.

Of at least 19 journalists killed throughout the world in 1986 in Freedom House's reports, four were from Mexico — more than from any other country.

Alejandro Junco de la Vega, publisher of the daily El Norte in the northern city of Monterrey, says that by his newspaper's count 29 journalists have been slain in Mexico in the last six years compared to 18 in the previous 12 years.

"The problem is worse in Mexico than any other Latin American country," he said in an interview.

"This is very alarming because the rate of increase in journalist murders is phenomenal."

Junco also is president of the Mexican Press Freedom Committee of the Interamerican Press Association.

Drug connection

Of the 29 listed as killed in the last six years, only in Felix Miranda's death has someone been charged.

"And there are some people who feel that this clarification (of Felix Miranda's death) is incomplete," Junco said.

While noting that no evidence exists to implicate the government, Junco accuses the government of failing to punish the killers of journalists.

"Is this method of silencing the press acceptable to our authorities?" he asked. "Why are the murders of journalists taken so lightly?"

Junco said he believes the increase in illegal drug trafficking from the Florida area to the southwestern United States via Mexico — and the subsequent criticism in the Mexican media of drug trafficking — is partly the reason for the increase in killings. He is not alone in that belief.

Elena Poniatowska, one of Mexico's more prominent writers, said that the journalists' death in northern Mexico in particular generally appear to be related to the drug trade's rise.

Speaking at a conference on cultural conflict and literature, she said she was not accusing the government of the deaths, "but the omission becomes complicity by not punishing the guilty."

The liberal Union of Democratic Journalists also lists 29 deaths throughout Mexico since 1982.

Since the crimes are unsolved, it cannot be determined if all 29 slayings were directly related to the victims' profession. The majority, however, bear clear markings of the now familiar pattern of an outspoken journalist gunned down in apparent retaliation for critical coverage.

The government has offered rewards for information about the killings of several journalists, including that of the influential columnist Manuel Buendia of Excelsior, a major newspaper in Mexico City.

He was shot to death May 30, 1984, in Mexico City's Zona Rosa (pink zone) business and entertainment district.

Buendia, whose column "private network" appeared on Excelsior's front page, was regarded as a hard-hitting investigative reporter who covered a wide range of subjects, including politics and international affairs. Before his death he published a book titled "The CIA in Mexico" and wrote of his opposition to U.S. involvement in Central America.

The federal investigator assigned to the case issued a report on the fourth anniversary of the slaying saying authorities had whittled down the number of

possible "intellectual authors" — people who could be behind the killing — to 41, and of those suspected of actually carrying it out to 10.

But he concluded that the chance for an ultimate solution to the case is only modest.

The report did little to assuage Mexican journalists' concerns about their personal safety.

The federal attorney general's office, under pressure from reporters and civic groups, recently offered 500 million pesos (about \$215,000) for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for Buendia's killing.

Manuel Burguero Orduno, a widely known journalist who wrote frequently about drug trafficking in the northwestern coastal state of Sinaloa, was shot and killed in his home there Feb. 22. Three men entered his house as he and his family were mourning the death of his father. The assailants escaped.

The state is a notorious centre for the illegal drug trade, and related violence has prompted general concern among residents.

The Sinaloa Journalists Association stages demonstrations outside the attorney general's office in Culiacan, the state capital, on the 22nd of every month to protest the slaying.

Alejandro Sicairos Rivas, president of the association, said 10 reporters, most if not all of whom also wrote about drug trafficking, have been killed in Sinaloa in the past decade.

"Not one murder has been solved. We want to know why," Sicairos said.

Sicairos, news editor for the daily Culiacan newspaper Debate, said police have told him they have tried to solve the murders.

"They told us that the murder of journalists is very complicated, that they possibly are very well-planned," he said.

But, he added, "it's not possible to sit at our typewriters and have the ghost of death looking over our shoulders."

'Lord of the Flies' novelist knighted

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth marked her official birthday Saturday by conferring a knighthood on Nobel prize-winning novelist William Golding and making former Times editor Sir William Rees-Mogg a life peer. Bestowing about 900 awards in the traditional bi-annual honours lists, the queen also appointed retiring NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington a knight grand cross of the order of Saint Michael and Saint George (G.C.M.G.), the top award given for representative services abroad. Golding, a prolific author best known for the novel "Lord of the Flies," received one of 33 knighthoods awarded. He won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1983. The British government last week appointed Rees-Mogg chairman of a new body to oversee broadcasting standards.

'No sex please, we are Indians'

NEW DELHI (AP) — The law ministry has rejected a proposed fine and jail term for Indians caught having sex with foreigners, saying the plan for fighting AIDS would violate the constitution, news reports said Friday. The Indian Council for Medical Research earlier this week proposed the three-month jail sentence and fine as a way to stop the spread of the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome. All but one of the 12 AIDS deaths in India were people who had contracted the disease abroad, according to the council. The proposal, which did not say how the law would be enforced, prompted mixed reaction. The Indian Express newspaper, in an article Friday under the headline, "No sex please, we are Indians," raised the spectre of a "police peeping squad" with "special accessories" to bring culprits from the bedroom to the jailhouse. Despite the rejection Friday, Dr. S.P. Tripathi, a director general of the council, told the newspaper the issue would be raised in parliament next year after a national debate.

Malaysian officials on health kick

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamad and 70 senior government officials leave Kuala Lumpur Friday night for what is described as a "fitness overhaul." The Malay Mail reported. The 62-year-old leader and his officials are off to Malaysia's cool Genting Highlands to live on fruit and vegetables and do exercises to improve their health and productivity, it said. "There won't even be sugar or cream for their coffee and tea," Dr. Abdullah Abdul Rahman of the prime minister's task force on productivity was quoted as saying. "Even their accommodation is spartan and they'll have to share loos (toilets)."

'Cry Freedom' to be screened

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — "Cry Freedom," a Richard Attenborough film about the death in detention of black consciousness founder Steven Biko, will be screened in South African theatres next month, the distributors said Thursday. The film, nominated for three academy awards, was originally to have been shown in South African theatres in April, but the distributors, United International Pictures, withdrew it because of fears of prosecution. The film is based on a book by Donald Woods, a white South African newspaper editor who fled the country after Biko's death in 1977. Woods is a "banned" person in South Africa and cannot be quoted, but the film was passed without cuts by the government's censorship body, the publication appeals board.

Israelis arrested for import of heroin

OSLO (AP) — Four Israeli citizens were remanded in custody by an Oslo probate court Thursday. Charged with illegal import of 1.5 kilograms of heroin, the Norwegian narcotics police announced. Two Israeli men were ordered held for eight weeks pending further police investigations and two Israeli women for four weeks each. Six Norwegians, most of them with previous criminal records, were also ordered held in custody for various periods from eight weeks to seven days. Truls Fyhn, head of the police narcotics section, announced that all 10 were arrested Wednesday.